

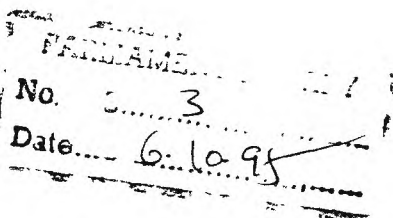
th Series, Vol. XXXIV, No. 11

Monday, August 8, 1994
Shravana 17, 1916 (Saka)

LOK SABHA DEBATES

(English Version)

Eleventh Session
(Tenth Lok Sabha)



(Vol. XXXIV contains Nos. 11 to 20)

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI

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LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Monday, August 8, 1994.
Shravana 17, 1916 (SAKA)

*The Lok Sabha met at Five Minutes Past
Eleven of the Clock*

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Modernisation of Ports

*202. SHRI N. DENNIS:
SHRI MULLAPPALLY
RAMCHANDRAN:

Will the Minister of SURFACE
TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any plan to develop/
modernise minor, medium and major ports in
the country.

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
and

(c) the funds provided for this purpose,
State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT
(SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (c). A
statement is laid on the table of the House.

(a) The Central Government is
concerned with the development and
modernisation of major ports only. During
8th Five Year Plan 1992-97, it is proposed to
develop and modernise all the 11 major ports
in the country. However, the responsibility
for development, maintenance etc., of the
minor and medium ports rests with the
concerned State Governments.

(b) and (c). For development and
modernisation of major ports, an outlay of rs.
2984 crores has been provided in 8th Plan
1992-97. The State-wise break-up of the
outlay is given below :-

Name of the state	Name of the Port	Outlay in 8th Plan 1992-97
1	2	3
West Bengal	1. Calcutta/Haldia	421
Maharashtra	2. Bombay	413
	3. J L Nehru	215
Tamil Nadu	4. Madras	570
	5. Tutuconin	65
Kerala	6. Cochin	117
Andhra Pradesh	7. Visakhapatnam	250

Name of the state	Name of the Port	Outlay in 8th Plan 1992-97
1	2	3
Gujarat	8. Kandla	226
Goa	9. Mormugao	123
Orissa	10. Paradip	486
Karnataka	11. New Mangalore	98
Total		2984

As regards the minor and medium ports, no information is available as they do not fall within the jurisdiction of the Government of India.

As regards the minor and medium ports, no information is available as they do not fall within the jurisdiction of the Government of India.

SHRI N. DENNIS : The operational and maintenance facilities should be developed at par with the international standard to meet the global competition. If private participation of port facilities is permitted, may I know from the hon. Minister the port facilities for which private participation is permitted? Is there any proposal to amend the Indian Minor Ports Act and also the Indian Major Ports Act to facilitate greater private participation of port facilities in upgrading the port facilities?

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER : As far as the present Act regarding ports is concerned, there is no need for any change in the Act. Under the present provisions of the Act, privatisation is being welcomed for quite some time, for the last 2 1/2 years. In all the major ports, we have given a scheme for privatisation like releasing of berths, releasing of containers, handling equipment, development of warehousing facilities, facilities for handling hazardous and liquid materials, mechanisation of berths; all these facilities have been allowed in all the ports.

I am happy to inform the Members also that till today about ten schemes have been cleared for privatisation. About 2000 ports are expected to benefit from them.

SHRI N. DENNIS : Apart from the 11 major ports, there are as many as about 226 minor and intermediate ports. Of course as it has been stated by the Minister they are under the administrative control of the State Government till 1978. The assistance that was given till 1978 for the development of minor ports was stopped in 1978. So, the development of minor and intermediate ports has been neglected for long. To cite an

example, the historic port colachel in Kanyakumari District has become out of operation, almost dormant, because of the long neglect. The development of minor ports would relieve congestion in major ports. Would the central assistance that was given for the development of minor ports be revived again?

May I know from the hon. Minister whether a Central Fund could be set up for the development of minor, intermediary and major ports?

I would also like to know whether the Government would direct the State Governments for making avail of port facilities private participation or by privatisation of port facilities.

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER : There are 139 minor ports in the country, which do not come under the Central Government. There was a scheme when we used to partly finance one port in the Eastern region and one Port in the Western region. We have no plans to take up the scheme again. But since most of the major ports, as I see in the coming years, are going to be overloaded with work, we, in the Ministry, are thinking of taking over one of the ports in the Eastern region and one in the Western region. But that scheme is at planning stage and nothing has been finalised so far.

I would like to inform the hon. Member that, though he has not asked about this but as it is one of the minor ports, we are thinking of upgrading the Kakinada Project with the help of Asian Development Bank. The project was sanctioned in 1990 at a cost of Rs. 124.08 crore. The Asian Development Bank has agreed to provide a loan of 77.90 million dollars for this project. This is supposed to be completed by August 1996.

DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA : Sir, in his reply the hon. Minister has given a State-wise break-up of an outlay of Rs. 2,984 crore for the development of 11 major ports during the Eighth Five Year Plan.

Paradeep Port is one of these 11 ports and for that port a sum of Rs. 486 crore has been earmarked. I would like to know from the hon. Minister, what is the item-wise break-up of this Rs. 486 crore and so far how much money has been released for the development of Paradeep Port in Orissa.

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER : Sir, I do not have this information of each port, but I would like to inform the House that I will let the Member know about this.

SHRI K. PRADHANI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister regarding privatisation of Paradeep Port. Subhash Project Exchange has applied for privatisation of this project to set up a ship repairing centre at Paradeep. May I know from the hon. Minister, what is the progress in this regard ?

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER : At present, as far as privatisation of Paradeep Port is concerned, applications have come in for the tanks for storage facilities.

I know that there was a talk that ship repairing facilities have been asked for. We are very happy to allow this and I can give a guarantee to the hon. Member that if this scheme is there, we will make sure that the Ministry does not wait for long to sanction this.

SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA : Mr. Speaker Sir, the hon. Minister, in his reply, has stated that development of minor and intermediary ports is the responsibility of the State Governments. Technically it is three in

one, that is, minor, intermediary and major ports.

There are Union Territories like Andaman & Nicobar Islands where there is no State Government and the Central Government will have to look after the entire development of the projects. I would also like to tell the hon. Minister that there was a Cabinet Resolution by which a Port Management Board for Andaman & Nicobar Islands had been constituted and all the power of the major ports have been entrusted to this Board.

But since it has not been declared as a major port trust, the development activities and all other infrastructure development are being hampered. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether he would like to consider these territories are absolutely dependent on the shipping service and it will continue and its improvement is necessary—these intermediaries and minor ports under the Major Port Trust Act as a very special case.

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER : Sir, we will have to study this proposal.

SHRI D. K. NAIKAR : Sir, the hon. Minister has supplied figures about allocation of funds in the Eighth Five Year Plan, from 1992 to 1997. So far as this allocation is concerned, Mangalore has been treated as a major port but only a sum of Rs. 98 crore has been allocated, whereas Mormugao has been allocated a sum of Rs. 123 crore. I want to know from the hon. Minister why this disparity in allocation has been made so far as Mangalore is concerned.

Sir, this Karwar port has been developed by the Central Government as a naval base and even then it has not been treated as a major port. I would like to know the reasons

therefor.

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER: Sir, the hon. Member has already mentioned that it has been developed as a naval base.

Resolution on Kashmir

*203 MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) BHUWAN
CHANDRA KHANDURI:
SHRI SRIBALLAV
PANIGRAHI:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of a resolution on Kashmir moved in a joint sitting of both Houses of Parliament of Pakistan recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto;

(c) whether the Government have taken any measures to counter such mischievous propaganda of Pakistan; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI
R. L. BHATIA): (a) yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). The resolution passed by the Pakistan Parliament on June 28, 1994, *inter alia*, expressed concern over the situation in J&K: contended that Pakistan's support to militancy in J&K is restricted to moral, political and diplomatic level; and seeks a settlement of the Kashmir issue in accordance with the UN resolutions.

Government have conveyed to the Government of Pakistan its concern and regret over the statement which is designed

to inflame public opinion and which constituted a blatant interference in our internal affairs.

Government have and will continue to take firm necessary measures to apprise the international community of the facts regarding developments in Jammu & Kashmir in correct perspective.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it seems that Pakistan has unleashed a fresh anti-India propaganda blitz and for the first time during the present regime under Ms. Bhutto as the Prime Minister a Resolution of this nature had been passed in the Joint Session of Parliament in Pakistan on 28th. I would like to know whether any protest has been lodged by the Government of India, if so, with whom, and what has been the response to that protest lodged by the Government of India. After that also it seems that the situation in regard to Indo-Pak relationship is turning from bad to worse. In the diplomatic front, there has been a lot of harassment of our diplomats in Pakistan. In fact, in yesterday's newspaper it has been mentioned.

Sir, it has become lengthy slightly but it is important.

MR. SPEAKER: You do not have to quote the newspaper. You cannot.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI: Sir, I am not reading it.

Sir, the night of July 23-24 was a fearful night for the Indian diplomats. After this Resolution. I heard that our protest has been lodged. What has been the response to our protest? On the diplomatic front, the situation is worsening. Further restriction on visa, which has been enforced, is affecting person to person contact between the people of

these two countries. Further, Pakistan is trying to intensify their move to internationalise the Kashmir issue. What has been the response to our protest? Do you believe it and take it on face value? What action is being taken from our side to combat such a situation?

SHRI R. L. BHATIA: The hon. Member has raised so many questions. The first is, as to when we reacted to the resolution and conveyed our concern. Immediately after the resolution was passed, our Foreign Secretary called the High Commissioner of Pakistan in Delhi and conveyed our concern.

The second question he asked was about the action taken by us after the resolution was passed. We had tried to give information to the international community about the consequences of internationalising the question by Pakistan, who are focussing on the internationalisation of the Kashmir question. Our position is very clear in this regard—which has been stated and expressed a number of times—that we want to settle all the issues with Pakistan through a dialogue under the Shimla Agreement. Even a few days back when the Foreign Minister of Pakistan met me at Dacca, I reiterated that the only way we could resolve this question is by a dialogue and he also confirmed and said, "Let there be an initiative and we will consider" and I emphasised that before we had a dialogue it was very important and necessary that the atmosphere in both the countries should be congenial for a dialogue.

With regard to the diplomats issue which the hon. Member has raised, it is true that our diplomats have been very much harassed in Pakistan and a protest has been lodged with the Government of Pakistan. We even called the High Commissioner here and explained to him that the situation was worsening and that it must be remedied. I also mentioned to

the Foreign Minister of Pakistan Shri Asaf Ali in Dacca that this must be stopped. He assured me that it would be taken care of.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : The situation is very peculiar. Because all the time when there is a conference, there are talks between our Minister and their Minister, or Secretary level talks, they say something, but which is violated immediately after.

The resolution that was passed and their lending moral, diplomatic and political support to the Jammu and Kashmir people in their fight for self-determination—something like that—is that not an interference in our internal affairs ? (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Will you be brief?

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI: Their adherence to the Shimla Agreement is vitiated and is violated thereby. Was this point taken up by us? Because we always lay emphasis on the Shimla Agreement. The United Nations session is going to be there in August.

With regard to the other point which the hon. Member has raised that a number of people have been sent abroad by Pakistan, it is true that Pakistan has sent about five different groups as Parliamentarians and other people who are from the different capitals of the world, who are kind enough to mobilise opinion for Pakistan for internationalising this question. As against that India is also doing its best and we are also apprising the world community about the futility of internationalising this question because it is a bilateral matter and both countries can sit together and sort out this matter.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI: Was there any consensus about the Resolution?

MR. SPEAKER : You will not reply this question.

SHRI E. AHAMED: Sir, I am referring to the last portion of the hon. Minister's reply that the Government have and will continue to take necessary and firm measures to apprise the international community of the facts regarding developments in Jammu and Kashmir in the correct perspective.

It is a matter of praise and compliment for the Government of India and the State Government of Jammu and Kashmir.

MR. SPEAKER: In External Affairs matters we have to be very precise, please.

SHRI E. AHMED : That the Hazratbal mosque has been entrusted to Wakf authorities and the security bunkers around the mosque have been removed. This was a longstanding demand and this positive and right action has sent the correct message to the people of Kashmir and all over the world. Pakistan has been trying to hijack the Organisation of Islamic Conference and I know personally that many of the member countries in the IOC are not in favour of the stand taken by the Pakistan on Kashmir. What steps have we taken is a matter of importance? In this connection, I would like to know from the hon. Minister what are the measures that we have taken to apprise the members of the world especially, the Islamic countries, who are the members of the Organisation of Islamic Conference, to apprise them of the present favourable atmosphere and about the nefarious activities of Pakistan, specially in a country like Saudi Arabia where there is no Ambassador for India for the last several months.

SHRI R.L. BHATIA: Sir, I agree with the hon. Member that by taking certain actions at Hazratbal, it will create a very congenial

atmosphere within the country and outside the country. It is the endeavour of the Government of India to create a situation within Kashmir so that the normalisation takes place and we are trying to explain this to outside the world also. There is a transparency and the Indian Government is trying to do its best. But it is Pakistan which is creating a problem by sending terrorists to Jammu and Kashmir and disturbing the atmosphere.

SHRI LAKSHMAN SINGH: Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister what the Government is going to do to protect the Indian journalists, who have been attacked in Pakistan. In Pakistan, the number of Indian journalists is reducing because of this reason whereas in India the number of Pakistani journalists is increasing. So, what are we going to do to protect the Indian journalists in Pakistan?

Secondly, India has removed the Army around the Hazratbal Shrine and that has eased the tension. But the terrorist groups have not lifted the ban on Amarnath yatra. What the Government of India is going to do about that?

SHRI R. L. BHATIA: Sir, with regard to the journalists, it is true that Pakistan is not encouraging journalists there. They have given them visa for six months and they are restricting our journalists to go to only three cities whereas in India, we have given visas for the Pakistani journalists for one year and they are permitted to go anywhere in the country. In this regard, we have had a dialogue with them that they must have equal system on both sides.

As far as Hazratbal affairs are concerned, India has taken the initiative. But militants have not said that they will allow the Amarnath yatra. The Amarnath yatra will continue. There

is already an assurance by our Home Ministry that they will take care of the whole situation

[Translation]

SHRI SURYA NARAYAN YADAV: There are sufficient proofs of Pakistan sending trained terrorists to India. The hon. Minister has himself raised this matter with some foreign countries and has demanded that Pakistan should be declared a terrorist country. What is the reaction of U.S.A. and other countries in this regard?

SHRI R.L. BHATIA: The entire world has been apprised of the situation. U.S.A. also knows that whatever is happening in Kashmir today is only at the behest of Pakistan. They had even thought of taking action. They did not take any action keeping in view their interests. They said that Pakistan was still under their vigilance.

[English]

SHRI MRUTYUNJAYA NAYAK: Sir, if Delhi happens to be the heart of the country, Jammu and Kashmir happens to be the head of the country. The hon. Minister has stated that during his recent visit to Dhaka, he had a dialogue with the Minister of External Affairs from Pakistan and had expressed our concern and reaction over the Resolution of the joint session of the Pakistan Parliament. I would like to know whether there has been further discussion with the Government of Pakistan after the dialogue and, if so, was there any specific reaction of Mrs. Benazir Bhutto Government.

SHRI R. L. BHATIA: Sir, firstly, I would like to make it clear that the Government of Pakistan failed in their attempt to project a consensus in the Parliament, as we were able to do. In the Joint Session of the Parliament, they adopted a Resolution on

which several Members of the Opposition were heard shouting "No, no". Press media reports also stated that this was a split vote in the Parliament. Secondly, the Resolution envisaged a Joint Committee under Nasrullah Khan, but so far, even that Committee has not been formed. So, there has not been a complete consensus in the Parliament with regard to that Resolution.

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR: Sir, may I enquire what are the prospects for the resumption of the dialogue on all issues, including Kashmir, between India and Pakistan, which was broached when the Foreign Secretaries met on the 2nd of January, 1994, and specifically whether there are any contacts established through diplomatic channels between India and Pakistan, with a view to appointing special envoys who will deal with this issue in a holistic manner, institutionalising the dialogue, so that we know in advance exactly when it is going to take place, where it is going to take place, how it is going to take place and between whom it is going to take place, so that these procedural questions do not become hurdle in the way of successive consideration of these issues?

SHRI R.L. BHATIA: Sir, in that meeting of the foreign Secretaries in early January, India gave six proposals which are under the consideration of the Government of Pakistan, so far we have not got any response whatsoever. So, no further action is sought to be taken at the moment.

Dereservation

*204. **SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT:**
KUMARI SUSHILA TIRIYA:

Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Bread, confectionery, icecream likely to be dereserved" appearing in the *Pioneer* dated July 16, 1994;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to allow the production of these consumer items by multinational companies;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the details of other commodities proposed to be dereserved by the Government; and

(e) the rationale behind allowing MNCs to enter in the sector reserved for small scale industries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) As per the reservation policy, no big company including a multinational, is allowed to manufacture items exclusively reserved for small scale sector without obtaining an industrial licence and accepting a minimum of 75% export obligation.

(d) No decision to de-reserve any item has been taken by the government since August, 1991.

(e) In view of the facts stated in (b), (c) and (d) the question does not arise.

KUMARI SUSHILA TIRIYA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Minister has replied that no decision has been taken by the Government or his Ministry for dereserving bread, confectioneries and ice-creams since 1991.

So, I would like to know from the Minister as to what step the Government is taking to promote or to develop the small scale industries so that they can compete with the multi-national companies.

SHRI TARUN GOGOI: Sir, the Government has various schemes which provide assistance to the small scale industries for their growth. They get a concessional rate of interest for tiny industries and they get excise duty reliefs also. Beside these, the Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana has also been introduced in order to promote the small scale industries.

KUMARI SUSHILA TIRIYA: Sir, mowah flowers are available in plenty in the tribal forest areas throughout the country. So, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether there is any plan to set up a mowah flower processing industry in the country so that the tribal people will save their life from ruin and they also become employed from it.

SHRI TARUN GOGOI: Sir, normally the Government does not set up any such plant directly. If any proposal comes from the State Governments the Government will surely consider and give necessary assistance.

SHRI A. CHARLES: Sir, the available statistics show that more than 40 per cent of the fruits grown in this country is wasted due to lack of processing facilities and the estimate cost per year is Rs.5,000 crore. So, you can understand the magnitude of the loss if processing facilities are not given. May I know from the hon. Minister whether any special schemes have been chalked out and encouragement is given especially for the processing of seasonal fruits? For example, mango and tomato are seasonal fruits and certain kinds of fish are also seasonal in some areas. These are all wasted because

there are no processing facilities. More than 10 years have elapsed since the formation of this Ministry, but nothing has been done to help the processing of these seasonal fruits and fish which are the real worth of this country.

SHRI TARUN GOGOI: Sir, it is a fact that in respect of processing of fruits and vegetables we are far below the international level. We are processing a little above 1.1 per cent. It is a fact that the Government has introduced a different policy and we have given assistance to the State Government Undertakings and the cooperatives to set up food processing industries. Then, Government had set up a Committee in the Planning Commission under the Chairmanship of Mr Jayant Patil. He has suggested certain measures, particularly infrastructure areas so that the export of processing industry increases.

SHRI P.C. CHACKO: Sir, the Minister has stated in his reply that the area which is reserved for SSI will not be deserved. But things are happening differently in the country. It is a fact and also it has come to the notice of the Government that some of the Indian companies are having tie-ups with the multinational companies who are manufacturing confectioneries and ice-creams. Reading from the newspapers, very soon we are going to get the popular brands of ice-creams and confectioneries of the world going to be manufactured by Indian companies. This is an area which does not require high technology. So, will the Government give a categorical assurance that the multinational companies will not be permitted to enter this field of manufacturing confectioneries and ice-creams and only Indian companies will be allowed in this area?

SHRI TARUN GOGOI: Sir, we have not

allowed any multinational company to manufacture ice-creams and there is no such proposal to allow any multinational company for the manufacturing of ice-creams, unless they undertake an export obligation upto 75 per cent.

DR. B.G. JAWALI: Sir, on the one hand there has been an intensive proposition and propaganda for the cultivation of horticulture and fruits and on the other hand there are no proper management services as far as marketing, cold storage are concerned and there are no processing facilities also. Now, due to this proposition, propaganda and encouragement given by the Department of Agriculture, a lot of rural people are engaged in this and virtually they are at the mercy of the middlemen in the field of marketing.

Now, they are virtually regretting, "Why we have granted this?"

Has the Government any comprehensive plan for coordination between the Ministries of Agriculture and Food Processing for marketing?

SHRI TARUN GOGOI: I do agree that the problem of marketing is still there. We have some plan schemes for encouraging big industries to procure the produce of the small producers for marketing also. We encourage big companies also to market the products of the farmers.

SHRI ANADICHARAN DAS: We are all aware that many things are produced in the tribal areas, particularly under the tribal sub-plan or ITP area. There is also a public undertaking called TRIFED which is under the Ministry of Welfare.

Has the Government proposed any plan to reserve those items available in the tribal sub-plan area or ITP area for TRIFED for

production and marketing by giving them concessions like no sales tax or no income-tax. Will the Government give other facilities to TRIFED to enter into this field to give a better price to the tribals and also for the marketing of their products?

SHRI TARUN GOGOI: TRIFED being under the Ministry of Welfare, I think, the Ministry of Welfare will be in a better position to answer it.

[Translation]

SHRI ANADI CHARAN DASS: You have not understood my point. My submission is that nobody should be allowed to function in tribal areas except TRIFED. Items like 'aonla', maize and many other things which are grown in our hilly regions, are covered under Tribal Sub-Plan. If these are kept reserved, other people will not go there to exploit the people. That is why I have submitted that only TRIFED should be allowed to function in tribal areas and for this they should be given some concessions also.

[English]

SHRI TARUN GOGOI: TRIFED is also there. But I do not have the details about the TRIFED. We can discuss it with that Ministry.

MR. SPEAKER: It is a good question. You can look into it.

Export Oriented Units

*207. SHRIMATI CHANDRA
PRABHA URS:
SHRI SUDHIR SAWANT :

Will the Minister of FOOD

PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to provide any relief package to the exporters of processed foods;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of proposals received and cleared by the Union Government in 1993-94 for the setting up of 100 per cent EOU's, State-wise;

(d) the proposed total investment thereof; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to ensure that the exporters follow the RBI guidelines scrupulously?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) to (e). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

The Ministry of Food Processing Industries does not propose to provide any relief package to the exporters of processed food. During 1993-94, 148 proposals of processed foods, integrated aquaculture and deep sea fishing involving an investment of Rs.1,116 crores with a projected export of Rs.12,409 crores for a period of 5 years have been approved, the State-wise break-up of which is given the annexure. Reserve Bank of India itself is a regulating authority under the Foreign Exchange regulation Act.

ANNEXURE

DETAILS OF APPROVALS FOR 100% EXPORT ORIENTED UNITS PROJECT FOR 1993-94.

	No. of Units	Proposed Investment			Projected Exports for 5 years. (Rs. in crores)
		1	2	3	
Andhra Pradesh	40		324		3691
Gujarat	8		41		379
Haryana	10		25		807
Himachal Pradesh	4		46		132
Karnataka	6		12		124
Kerala	10		46		1935
Punjab	2		34		105
Rajasthan	6		20		218
Tamil Nadu	15		97		847
Uttar Pradesh	6		64		879

	No of Units	Proposed Investment	Projected Exports for 5 years
	1	2	3
West Bengal	1	1	39
Andaman Nicobar	1	18	27
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	1	1	162
Goa	2	47	339
Pondicherry	2	13	131
Meghalaya	1	4	13
Maharashtra	27	145	1064
Indian Exclusive Economic Zone	6	195	1517
Total	148	1116	12409

SHRI SUDHIR SAWANT: There is a wide difference between what I have asked in the question and what has been given.

I have asked about the package credit and not relief package.

The main problem raised by the entrepreneurs in the rural areas, actually in the small scale sector is in the field of seasonal fruits. That is where the question relates to package credit.

Two things are involved in this. One is practicability of the RBI guidelines. Has the Ministry gone into the details of packaging credit because it depends on the cycle of each product of seasonal food? Secondly, whether the banks follow the RBI guidelines, which is another issue, which is very difficult to understand. Is the Ministry monitoring these issues?

I want to know whether the guidelines issued for packaging credit are practicable and whether the banks are following the RBI guidelines.

SHRI TARUN GOGOI: Sir, in fact, we do not monitor and it is the RBI which implements these guidelines.

MR. SPEAKER: If you ask the Finance Ministry to give some relief and if that relief is given but if it is not accepted, then what are you going to do?

SHRI TARUN GOGOI: Then we will take it up.

MR. SPEAKER: You will look into it.

SHRI SUDHIR SAWANT: Sir, the question about the practicability of the RBI guidelines was not answered properly. I feel that the Ministry has to tell the RBI about the cycle of seasonal fruits and then only the RBI can

have some guidelines.

SHRI TARUN GOGOI: We do not take up anything with the RBI. We always take up the matter with the Ministry of Finance and the Ministry, in turn, will take up the matter with the RBI.

SHRI SUDHIR SAWANT: That is what I would request that they should take up the matter relating to each product with the Finance Ministry and find out whether the package credit is realistic.

SHRI TARUN GOGOI: As far as packaging is concerned, there is a problem. Packaging cost is still very high and in fact we have taken up the matter with the Finance Ministry for relief to be given for the packaging materials and that Ministry has considered it to a certain extent.

SHRI SUDHIR SAWANT: Sir, I would like to put my second Supplementary.

MR. SPEAKER: This is going to be your fourth Supplementary, but not the second.

SHRI SUDHIR SAWANT: Sir, that was regarding the packaging credit.

MR. SPEAKER: Okay, I will allow you.

SHRI SUDHIR SAWANT: My second Supplementary is regarding the FPO licences. What is happening is that the small scale entrepreneurs in the rural areas have to travel a distance of 500 kilometres to 1,000 kilometres to get their FPO licences. This is a major problem for our people. For example, from my constituency, for procuring an FPO licence for Alphonso mangoes, people have to travel from Sindhdurg to Bombay which is a heavy burden on the small scale entrepreneurs. I would like to know whether the Ministry is thinking of

taking any action so that the actual licence is given at the district level.

SHRI TARUN GOGOI: I do appreciate that the entrepreneurs have been facing some problems for getting FPO licences. In fact, we want to relax the provisions so that they can avail of this facility without problems.

Telephone Instruments

* 210. **SHRI SHARAD DIGHE:** Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have recently decided to discontinue the provision of telephone equipment and internal cables to telephone subscribers;

(b) if so, the details and the implications thereof;

(c) whether the aforesaid decision would be applicable to the new subscribers only or gradually made applicable to the existing subscribers also;

(d) whether all the subscribers would be required to bear the service and repair charges; and

(e) if so, the details and reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) to (e). Sir, the entire matter is under active consideration of the Government

SHRI SHARAD DIGHE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the answer given by the hon. Minister conceals more than that what it. The answer is that it is all under active consideration. May I know pointedly whether a formal decision in this regard has already

been taken by the Communications Minister clearing this proposal which was put forth by the Telecom Commission and only a formal announcement is awaited?

SHRI SUKH RAM: Sir, there is a definite proposal for handing over of the installation, maintenance of the instruments and internal wiring also. But then I wanted to know about certain implications involved in it. First is, that line jack is an interphasing point upto which DoT line will come and beyond that private party has to do the internal wiring. In case of any problem, any complaint, I have asked to Commission to let me know, whether there is any technology which will identify the fault, whether it is in the premises of the subscribers or in the DoT. That is one part.

Another point is about the number of people going to be rendered surplus. Today, these linemen, telephone inspector and certain other people are engaged in this work. I wanted to know, how many people are going to be rendered surplus. I have already made a commitment to the entire Department that there will be no retrenchment and that the staff which will be rendered surplus will be given training and redeployed somewhere else. These are some of the points on which I sought certain clarifications. As and when I receive these clarifications then a formal decision in this regard will be taken. I may make it clear that if we take this decision, it may not be possible to apply it throughout the country.

It may be in the beginning in the major cities because these manufacturers have to set up their sales points and after-sale service also.

These are the considerations which have to be looked into and I assure the hon. House that when all these clarifications are given, thereafter the formal announcement will be

made.

SHRI SHARAD DIGHE : When this scheme comes into force, the fault may occur many times in future and there will be added burden on the subscribers. But this Department and the Mahanagar Telephone Nigam may put the blame on the subscribers' equipment even if the fault arises from the services of the Nigam.

In view of these difficulties, I would like to know whether the hon. Minister would consider, before taking a final decision, discussing the various aspects of the Scheme either on the forum of Consultative Committee or the Standing Committee or even with some fora of the subscribers' organisations.

SHRI SUKH RAM: These are some of the points about which I have asked for clarifications. I have no objection to discuss this with the Consultative Committee or any forum after all. This will give relief to a number of subscribers because today they are depending one hundred per cent on DOT or the MTNL for installation of lines etc. I think if there is additional burden, then those who instal the telephone have to bear that burden also.

SHRI UMRAO SINGH: The hon. Minister has not replied to part (c) of the question whether this will be applicable to new subscribers or to the old subscribers with whom the telephones are already functioning.

SHRI SUKH RAM: How can it apply to the old subscribers because wiring has already been done for them by the DOT? It is only for the new subscribers.

Postal Staff Colleges

*215 **SHRI SHANTARAM POTDUKHE:** Will the Minister of

COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of Postal Staff Colleges and Postal Training Centres have been established in the country;

(b) if so, the objectives and the details thereof, State-wise;

(c) the number of training programmes and workshops conducted at the Postal Staff Colleges from 1989-90 to 1992-93;

(d) the expenditure incurred thereon;

(e) the number of persons trained during the last three years; and

(f) the targets fixed for programmes/ workshops during 1993-94 and 1994-95?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) to (f). The statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(a) The Department of Posts has established only one Postal Staff College and 5 regional Postal Training Centres in the country.

(b) The objectives of establishment of the Postal Staff College and regional Postal Training Centres are to impart induction and in-service training to officers/staff of the Department of Posts. State-wise details of the institutions are as under:-

(i) Postal Staff College India, Ghaziabad. U.P.

(ii) Postal Training Centres at-

(a) Saharanpur, U.P.

(b) Vadodara Gujarat.

- (c) Darbhanga, Bihar.
- (d) Mysore, Karnataka.
- (e) Madurai, Tamil Nadu.

(c) Fifty one training programmes and workshops were conducted by Postal Staff College, India, Ghaziabad from 1989-90 to 1992-93.

(d) Rs.2,39,10,000/-

(e) 627

(f) 1993-94 – 22

1994-95 – 29

SHRI SHANTARAM POTDUKHE: The postal work is very much increasing day by day. There is only one Postal Staff College in India and five Postal Training Centres. May I ask the hon. Minister whether the Government wants to increase the number of Postal Staff Colleges and postal Training Centres at various places?

SHRI SUKH RAM: I do not feel any necessity of having additional Training Centres or Postal Staff Colleges because the present arrangement is sufficient to cater to the needs. But if there is any necessity, it can be considered.

SHRI SHANTARAM POTDUKHE: To part (c) of my Question regarding the number of Training Programmes and workshops conducted from 1989-90 to 1992-93, the hon. Minister has answered that only 627 Training programmes have taken place within these three years. May I ask the hon. Minister whether more Training Programmes would be undertaken by the Department?

SHRI SUKH RAM: Training is a very

important part. It increases the efficiency of the officers, officials. I think there is no harm if some additional steps are taken to give more training to the services.

KUMARI FRIDA TOPNO: I want to know from the hon. Minister whether any such institutions like Postal Training Centres or Postal Staff Colleges have been established in Orissa?

SHRI SUKH RAM: There is no such proposal. It has not even been contemplated at present.

SHRI D.K. NAIKAR: I want to know from the hon. Minister whether, while giving training in these institutions, the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes people have been selected for such a training.

SHRI SUKH RAM: Of course, the scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes people are definitely considered for giving training. Whatever has been the policy of the Government, we are implementing all the policies.

SHRI SARAT CHANDRA PATTANAYAK: Sir, the hon. Minister has mentioned that there is no proposal to open the Postal Staff Colleges in Orissa. I would like to know from the hon. Minister, through you, that in 1994-95, whether the Government is considering to open such Colleges or not.

SHRI SUKH RAM: There is no necessity of adding any College or the Training Centre because, as I said, the existing arrangement is sufficient enough to cater to the needs of our employees and the officers.

Power Equipment

*218. SHRI UDAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD: Will the Minister of POWER be

pleased to state:

(a) whether some power equipment has been imported during 1992-93 and 1993-94;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with names of countries of import and the foreign exchange spent;

(c) whether there is any proposal to produce these equipments in the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYADAIDU): (a) to (e). A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b). A wide range of machinery fall under the category of power equipment which is used in thermal, hydel, gas and nuclear power plants. Power equipment also covers transmission and distribution equipments and other accessories related to the power sector. Power equipments are imported by SEBs, industries using captive

generation plants as well as the public and private utilities in the power sector. At present, power equipment is under Open General License (OGL). The details of power equipment imported by various agencies along with the names of countries from which they are imported, with the approval of Central Electricity authority, are placed in the Annexure-I. The details of power equipment imported by NHPC, NTPC, POWERGRID and NEEPCO are given in Annexure-II. However, this does not include the cases of utilities/SEBs who may have directly imported power equipment. The import of power equipment is also covered under bilateral and multilateral aid from various agencies as well as other countries under various funding arrangements.

(c) to (e). Power equipments particularly in the field of generation, transmission and distribution are manufactured domestically by both public sector undertakings as well as private sector companies. If information pertaining to specific equipments or project is indicated, it would be possible for this Ministry to give the details of the local manufacturing capabilities within the country. However, import of power equipment is sometimes necessitated in respect of projects receiving multilateral and bilateral aid.

LIST OF POWER EQUIPMENT IMPORTED BY VARIOUS AGENCIES WITH THE APPROVAL OF THE CENTRAL
ELECTRICITY AUTHORITY.

S.No.	Organisation/ Power Station	Equipment	Foreign Value	Country of Import	Remarks
1	2	3	4	5	6

1992-93

A.S.E.B

1.	Namrup TPS	Components of gas turbines.	US \$ 11,04,163.07	Westinghouse Canada.	Items of Proprietary nature
2.	Iakwa TPS	-do-	US \$ 39,97,708.42	-do-	-do-
3.	Namrup TPS	Turbine diaphragms seals and joint seals insert blades rings etc.	US \$ 18,05,423.05	-do-	-do-

1993-94

M.P.E.B.

4.	Korba (E), Satpura & Amarkantak TPS	Cable fault location test set (3 Nos.)	US \$ 96,277.50	USA	P.O. placed on the basis of Global tenders.
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S.No.	Organisation/ Power Station	Equipment	Foreign Value	Country of Import	Remarks
1	2	3	4	5	6
5.	-do-	Agua test set (3 Nos.)	US \$ 28,410.00	USA	-do-
6.	-do-	Digital Micro Ohm	UJ \$ 11,325.75	UK	-do-
7.	-do-	Portable Universal Bridge (3 Nos.)	US \$ 27,044.25	USA	-do-
8.	-do-	Motor driven megger (3 Nos.)	UK \$ 18,170.25	UK	-do-
9.	-do-	Earth tester (3Nos.)	UK \$ 2,755.75	UK	-do-
10.	-do-	Thermovision Camera (3 Nos.)	UK 84,447.75	UK	-do-
11.	-do-	Capacitance & Dielectric desipation factor test set (3 Nox.)	SFR 2,80,904.40	Switzerland	-do-
12.	-do-	H.T. Meter testing kit (3 Nos.)	SFR 81,900.00	-do-	-do-
13.	Korba (E), Satpura & Amarkantak TPS	Transformer turns Ratio test set.	SFR 92,997.90	Switzerland	P.O. Placed on the basis of global tenders.

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S.No.	Organisation/ Power Station	Equipment	Foreign Value	Country of Import	Remarks
1	2	3	4	5	6
14.	-do-	Microprocessor controlled circuit breaker analyser (3 Nos.)	Equivalent Indian Rs 36,13,500.00	Ireland	-do-
15.	-do-	Vibration Analyser set (3 Nos.)	Equivalent Indian Rs. 1,98,78,000.00	UK	-do-
16.	-do-	High voltage DC test set (3Nos.)	Equivalent Indian Germany Rs. 14,81,760.00	Germany	-do-
M.S.E.B.					
17.	Nasik TPS	i) Worm wheel & worm shaft for BM-90 Coal Freight	18,75,720 FF Est. Air Engrenages ET 86,000/-FF	M/s CMD Transmissions cust. Duty certi- Reducteurs, France	Proprietary item concessional cate issued on 26-4-94.
	Mill Gear Box 4 sets.	ii) Generation rotor Retaining Rings - 2 sets	40,61,000 FF	M/s GEC	-do-

S.No.	Organisation/ Power Station	Equipment	Foreign Value	Country of Import	Remarks
1	2	3	4	5	6
		iii) Locking Ring of H.P. Turbine-2 sets	1,51,500 FF Est. Air freight for (ii) + (iii) = 30,486	Alsthom France	on 27.5.94
		iv) B.F. Pump spare parts - 2 sets	25,54,379 FF Incl. of freight etc.	M/s Sulzer France.	Proprietary Items
N.L.C					
18.	Neyveli TPS	Components of Boiler and Turbine.	6,15,170	Russia	Proprietary Items

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LIST OF EQUIPMENTS FOR WHICH FOREIGN EXCHANGE RELEASED DURING 1992-93 & 1993-94.

S No.	Year	Description of Items	Country of Import	Amount of FE released	Remarks
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	1992-93	Gas insulated Switchgear (17.2 KV) for Kerala Power Project	NETHERLAND	Rs 15,93,52,066.00	
2.		Gas insulated Switchgear for Trombay Tehmal Power Generating Station Unit (TATA)	JAPAN	Rs. 5,39,87,700.00	
3.		Three vector Energy Meters (MSEB)	CANADA/USA	Rs. 48,562,000.00	
4.		Reference meters for Switchgear for MPEB	SWITZERLAND	Rs. 1,09,78,667.00	
5.		304 Nos. K 3000 Type trivector meters (MPEB)	CANADA	Rs.49,48,000.00	
6.		2 Nos. of Silica meters for Ennore TPS (TNEB)	FRANCE	Rs.1,23,182,000	
7.		Capital goods for reversible pump of storage plant for BHIRA HEP	SWITZERLAND	Rs. 64,28,43,366.00	

S.No.	Year	Description of Items	Country of Import	Amount of FE released	Remarks
1	2	3	4	5	6
8.		Generating Station. Geological Equipments (JPCL)	USA	Rs. 1293.93	
9.		MOOSE Conductor for 400 KV D/C Kaithalguri Project (NTPC)	BAHARAIN	Rs. 29,74,94,274.00	
10.		Steel Plates for Koyna (HEP)	JAPAN	Rs. 16,66,18,322.00	
11.		Components for 2 Nos. Turbine Generator.	JAPAN	Rs. 12,92,969.00	
12.		Installation materials for renovation of Sharavathi Generating Unit.	JAPAN	Rs. 2,06,091.00	
13.		XLPE under-ground cables 11 KV for master plan works in KSEB	CHINA	RS. 15,23,91,500.000	
14.		Gas Turbine Basin Bridge Gas Turbine Project (TNEB)	JAPAN	Rs. 708,78,040.00 Yen60072197209	
15.		Additional Structural Steel for NPTC Project (TNEB)	JAPAN & SOUTH KOREA	Rs. 1,65,78,810.00	

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S.No.	Year	Description of Items	Country of Import	Amount of FE released	Remarks
1	2	3	4	5	6
16.		Capacitor Component for KSEB	CANADA	Rs. 25,69,87,386.00	
17.		Field Exploration equipment for feasibility study of the Dhamwari Sunda Hydro Electric Project (HPSEB)	SWEDEN	Rs. 99,36,233.00	
18.		Structural Steel for Modernisation & Renovation of 400 KV Kathalguri Mariani Section Transmission Line (NTPC)	SOUTH KOREA	Rs. 15,45,22,277.00	
19.	1993-94	Civil Construction Machinery Equipment (SPSEB)	JAPAN	J.Y 834.46674 (Million)	
20.		Testing instruments for Switchgear capacitor equipments (KSEB)	CANADA	C\$ 241842.39	
21.		Four sets fo worm wheel and worm shaft for gear box of Coal Mills for Nasik TPS Unit 1 & 2. 2X140 MW (MSEB)	FRANCE	FF 1981337.00	

Sl.No.	Organisation/ Power Station	Equipment	Country of Import	Amount of FF released	Remarks
1	2	3	4	5	6
22.		2 sets each of generator rotor retaining rings and locking rings for HP turbine of TG sets of Nasik TPS Unit 1 & 2. 2x140 MW (MSEB)	FRANCE	FF 42,85,416	
23.		Generating Plant & Equipment (Koyana HEP)	FRANCE	US \$ 57250353 + FF 341918920.00	

ANNEXURE -II

LIST OF POWER EQUIPMENT IMPORTED BY NHPC, NTPC, PGCL AND NEEPCO.

I. NATIONAL HYDRO-ELECTRIC POWER CORPORATION:

Sl. No.	Project	Equipment imported during 1992-93 & 1993-94	Foreign Exchange Spent	Name of the Country of Import
1	2	3	4	5
	Uri HEP	A) ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT:		
	J&K STATE	i) Earthing System	3,317,882 CHF	Sweden
		B) HYDROMECHANICAL EQUIPMENTS		
		i) Penstock liners		
		ii) Head Regulator-Radial Gates, Stoplogs and hoists		
		iii) Under Sluice gate & hoists		

Sl. No	Project	Equipment imported during 1992-93 & 1993-94	Foreign Exchange Spent	Name of the Country of Import
1	2	3	4	5
		iv) Spillway gate & hoists		
		v) Culvert Intake Equipment-Gate Screens and their embedded parts	24,687,591 CBP	U.K.
		vi) Tunnel Intake and Gate Embedded parts		
		vii) Draft Tube Gates		
		viii) Main Inlet Valves		
	DUL HASTI	Pressure Tunnel Liner 400 KV		
	HEP	GAS Insulated Sub-station,		
	J&K	Intake Gates, Desilting Chambe.	3,052,614,606 JPY	France

Sl. No.	Project	Equipment imported during 1992-93 & 1993-94	Foreign Exchange Spent	Name of the Country of Import
1	2	3	4	5
		gates, EOT Cranes, power and Control Cabling System, Turbines special valves, Generators with all accessories.	(Japanese Yen)	
III.	CHAMERA HEP	Installation tools, testing equipments, generators parts, oil filled cables & accessories, transformers parts, GIS Equipment parts Battery Bank etc.	7,882,939 C	Canada & Germany

II. NATIONAL THERMAL POWER CORPORATION

Project	Details of Plant/equipment imported	Country of Import	Source of financing	Total value of Import during 1992-93
1	2	3	4	5
1992-93				
Dadri: GPP (4x1 31/MW GT + 2x146. 5MW ST)	Equipment/material for Gas Turbine Generator and its auxiliaries, materials for Waste Heat Recovery Boiler (WHRB), bypass stack and dampers etc., Steam Turbine and its auxiliaries.	Germany, USA Japan, Austria UK, Belgium, & Denmark	KfW	
Kawas GPP 4x106MW GT + 2x110, 5MW ST)	WHRB and Steam Turbine components	France & Belgium	World Bank French & Belgium Credit	
Ganchar GPP (3X131MW GT+ 1x255 MW ST)	Gas Turbines, Gas Turbine Generators, Structural Steel materials of exhaust bypass stack etc.	Japan, UK Germany & Singapore	DECF	Rs. 1381.45 Crores
Kahalgao STPP 4x2100MW)	Equipment/material for Steam Turbines and Steam Generators.	Russia Russia	Russian Credits	

Project	Details of Plant, equipment imported	Country of Import	Source of financing	Total value of Import during 1992-93
1	2	3	4	5
Farakka STPP-II (2x500MW)	Equipment/material for Steam Generators, Electrostatic Precipitators (ESPS), Water Pretreatment Plant and Generator Transformers.	Italy, USA Germany & Yugoslavia	World Bank/ KEW/Italian Credit/BTOO	
Talcher STPP (2x500 MW)	Equipment/material for Steam Turbines and Condenser, Pressure parts, piping and support structures for Steam Generators, Boiler Feed Pumps	Germany, France & Italy	World Bank/ French Credit	
1993-94				
Dadri GPP (4x131MW GT + 2x146.6 MW ST)	Equipment/material for Gas Turbine Generator and its auxiliaries, materials for WHRB, bypass stack and dampers etc. Steam Turbine and its auxiliaries.	Germany, USA, Japan, Austria, UK, Belgium, Finance, Italy & Denmark	KFW	

Project	Details of Plant/equipment imported	Country of Import	Source of financing	Total value of Import during 1992-93
1	2	3	4	5
Ganchar GPP (3x131 MW GT + 1x255 MW ST)	Gas Turbines, Gas Turbine Generators, Steam Turbine, WHRB modules etc.	Japan, UK, Germany & Singapore	OECF	
Kathalgaon STPP (4x210 MW)	Equipment/material for Steam Turbines and Steam Generators	Russia	Russian Credit	
Farakka STPP-II (2x500 MW)	Equipment/material for Steam Generators, ESPs.	Italy & USA	World Bank/ KFW/Italian Credit BTGO (Provisional)	738.36 Crores
Talcher STPP (2x500 MW)	Equipment/material for Steam Turbines and Condensor, Pressure parts, piping and support structures for Steam Generators, Boiler Feed Pumps, Generator Circuit Breakers	Germany, France & Italy	World Bank/ French Credit	
Singrauli STPP-II (2x500MW)	Materials for Fire Proof Cable Sealing System	USA	World Bank	

III POWER GRID CORPORATION

Sl. No.	Organisation/Power Stations	Equipment	Foreign Exchange Value	Country of Import	Remarks
1	2	3	4	5	6
DURING 1992-93					
1.	POWER GRID CORPORATION	ACSR Moose Conductor	Y- 124,499,534	BAHRAIN'	
2.	-do-	High Tensile Steel Angles Sections/ Plates and MS Plates	Y- 407,480,234	JAPAN	
3.	-do-	High Tensile Steel Angle Sections.	Y - 792,042,600	SOUTH KOREA	
4.	-do-	Component for 400 KV Circuit Breakers	FF 37,680.85	FRANCE	
5.	-do-	TOD Meters	1,200,000	U.K.	
DURING 1993-94					
1.	POWER GRID CORPORATION	ACSR Moose	Y 626,214,074	BAHRAIN	

Sl. No.	Organisation/Power Stations	Equipment	Foreign Exchange Value	Country of Import	Remarks
1	2	3	4	5	6
2.	-do-	High Tensile Steel Angle Sections	Y-626,772,550	SOUTH KOREA	
1992-93	NEEPOO	1. Four sets of gas turbine generating equipments, fuel gas system and related electrical and C & I auxiliaries parts. 2. Embedded material and templates for 4 sets of Gas Turbine 3. Embedded materials for 4 sets of Generators.	1,578,630,052 Yen	JAPAN	
1993-94	NEEPCO	1. Generating Sets 4 nos. including auxiliaries.			

Sl. No.	Organisation/Power Stations	Equipment	Foreign Exchange Value	Country of Import	Remarks
1	2	3	4	5	6
		2. Fuel Gas system including 4 sets of gas compressor gas metering system, measuring instruments, knock-out drums etc.			
		3. Generator transformers 4 nos.	8,128,529,165 Yen	JAPAN	
		4. Bypass stack 4 nos.			
		5. Other miscellaneous auxiliary equip[ments like DG set, overhead crane, MCC, Bus ducts, fire protection system etc.			

SHRI UDAYSINGRAO GAIKEAD: Mr. Speaker, Sir, in respect of part (c) to (e) of my question, the answer that has given, according to the statement, is:

"Power equipments particularly in the field of generation,

transmission and distribution are manufactured domestically..."

I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether, even though the power equipments are manufactured domestically, some of the State Electricity Boards are still getting permission from the Government to get these things imported from other countries.

SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU: The imports of equipments like plant and machinery and other accessories for the Power Plants have been brought under OGL. So, many private companies and also the State Electricity Boards may import directly without the intervention of the Government of India. Therefore, it is not possible to give any specific information in this regard.

SHRI UDAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD: When the Policy of the Government is that whatever is manufactured indigenously should be given top priority and the users should get these machineries from the indigenous manufacturers only, I would like to know whether State Electricity Boards in the country are going to abide by all these. If not, why?

SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU: We have a system of international competitive bidding. Also, these equipments are supplied by some other countries when we get aid on bilateral basis. So, we cannot say that we are going preference. However, the equipment manufacturers in this country can compete

with others and get the orders. There is nothing like giving preference to the indigenous manufacturers. They have to compete with the other manufacturers. There are so many industries in the field. So, there is no particular unit or industry which is given preference. They have to compete with the others in terms of quality and price.

SHRI LAKSHMAN SINGH: Sir, bio-mass is a viable source of energy as also for cutting down the cost of import of power machinery. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether there is any move to encourage the bio-mass power generation at district level, if not, will you make any project like this?

SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the question relates to the Ministry of Non-conventional Energy Sources.

MR. SPEAKER: Question Number 219. Shrimati Dil Kumari Bhandari - Not present.

SHRI E. AHAMED: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the other day, the hon. Minister for Parliamentary Affairs said that by Monday, the opposition were likely to attend. But still they are not seen here. May the House be informed about something because we have a right to know about it?

MR. SPEAKER: I have not yet declared that the Question Hour is over.

SHRI E. AHAMED: I am sorry, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER: Question Number 220. Dr. Krupasindhu Bhoi - Not present.

Well, today, we have the distinction of having covered all the questions.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[Translation]

National Food Processing Policy.

*201. SHRI PANKAJ
CHOWDHARY:
SHRI RAJENDRA
AGNIHOTRI:

Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the final draft on the National Food Processing Policy has been prepared;

(b) if so, the broad details thereof;

(c) whether discussions were held with the State Governments before finalising the draft policy; and

(d) if so, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) to (d). The food processing industry is being developed within the broad parameters of the Industrial Policy of the Government. After having completed the first round of consultations with the State Governments and others, a framework for developing the new policy measures to address various issues for accelerated development of food processing industries with an objective of augmenting employment opportunities and income both in rural and urban areas, reduce post-harvest losses, establish productive linkage between the industry and the farmers, increase export of processed foods and

generally support the productive efforts of agriculture and allied activities has been prepared which will be finalised after further discussion with the State Governments, sister Ministries, etc.

[English]

Expressways

*205. SHRI KASHIRAM RANA:
SHRI S.B. SIDNAL:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any survey has been conducted to identify Expressways;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the criteria adopted for the construction of Expressways;

(d) the total estimated length of each of these Expressways and the cost thereof; and

(e) the time by which work on these Expressways is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (e). Yes, Sir. Based on density of traffic and techno-economic considerations, about 10, 200 km of high density routes have been identified under an ADB (Asian Development Bank) financed study for development as Expressways in the country for a time horizon upto the year 2015. Of these, the Expressway routes as per following details have been identified as priority routes by the year 2000:

S. No.	Name The Routs	Lenrh (km)	Routh Cost (Rs. in Crore)
1.	Delhi-Kamal-Ambala	199	1000
2.	Ahmedabad-Vadodara-surat	269	2150
3.	Delhi-Ghaziabad-Kanpur	414	2500
4.	Kanpur-Varanasi	313	2000
5.	Bombay-Thane-Nasik	145	870

Keeping in view the high magnitude of the cost involved for the development of an Expressway system and general paucity of funds, it is too early to indicate the time frame by which these Expressways would be taken up except that the Ahmedabad-Vadodara Expressway is targetted to be completed by June, 1996.

Power Shortage

*206. SHRI NITISH KUMAR:
SHRI NAWAL KISHORE

RAI:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the extent of power shortage estimated in the beginning and at the end of the Eighth Plan;

(b) the measures taken/proposed to be taken to meet the situation; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to check the transmission losses and improve power generation capacity of the existing power plants?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI

N.K.P. SALVE) : (a). The estimated power shortage at the beginning of the 8th Plan i.e. 1993-93 was 10.4% while the actual deficit was 8.3%. Based on the capacity addition target of 30538 MW during the 8th plan, the power shortage estimated at the end of 8th plan is 9%. However, the expected capacity addition during the 8th plan is not likely to be more than 20,000 MW and the corresponding short fall will be 14%.

(b) Various measures taken to improve the availability of power in the country include (i) expediting commissioning of new generating capacity, (ii) improving the performance of existing power stations, (iii) reduction of Transmission and Distribution losses, (iv) implementation of better demand management and energy conservation measures, (v) arranging transfer of energy from surplus to deficit areas, and (vi) promotion of private sector investment in Power Sector.

(c) Comprehensive guidelines have been issued by Central Electricity Authority the power utilities for reducing Transmission and distribution losses. These include, conducting of Energy Audit for identifying the system elements responsible for excessive losses, installing capacitors to improve the

voltage profile, preparation of system improvement schemes for strengthening the improvement of the systems, installing tamper-proof meter boxes, intensifying surprise raids and launching prosecution against the persons found indulging in theft of energy. Theft of energy has been made a cognizable offence from August 1986 under the provision of Section-39 of the Indian Electricity Act, 1910. An incentive scheme has also been introduced by the Government of India among the State Electricity Boards/ Electricity Departments constituted by the State Governments. Various measures being taken to improve the generation in the country include Renovation and Modernisation of old units, assistance to Electricity Boards in undertaking plant betterment programme, supply of requisite quantity and quality of coal and training of operation & maintenance personnel.

[English]

Foreign Investment in Power Sector

*208. PROF. UMMAREDDY: VENKTESWARLU: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have the objective of allowing market forces to determine the quantum of investment by foreign power companies;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any time limit to the continuance of guarantees given by the Government to foreign companies;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reason therefor?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI

N.K.P. SALVE): (a) and (b). The Government has allowed the entry of private sector in power sector as a generating company by making necessary amendments in the Acts. The responsibility of raising finances for a private power project rests with the project developer, therefore, the quantum of investment by foreign power companies will depend on the investors' perception of attractiveness of investment in the Indian Power Sector and their ability to raise finances, both equity and debt to finance power projects.

(c). No guarantees have so far been executed by the Government of India to any foreign private company.

(d) and (e). Do not arise.

Food Processing Units

*209. SHRI LAL BABU RAI:
SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL:

Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any proposals for setting up Food Processing Units in economically and industrially backward areas of the country in 1994-95;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of Food Processing Units set up in the backward regions of the country during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) and (b). Most of the Food Processing Industries are delicensed with the exception

of brewing and distillation of alcoholic beverages and those items reserved for small scale sector. As per the available information, during the period April, 1994 to June, 1994, 106 Industrial Entrepreneur Memoranda have been filed involving an investment of about Rs. 1624 crores and an employment of about 20,695 persons. Out of these 44 Industrial Entrepreneur Memoranda relate to the Food Processing Units proposed to be set up in backward areas only. The investment involved is about Rs. 543 crores and the employment envisaged is 6,511 persons.

(c). During the last 3 years, 63 Food Processing Units have been set up in the backward areas involving an investment of Rs. 1,276 crores and an employment of 7,345 persons.

Food Processing Industries

*211. SHRI VILASRAO NAGNATHRAO GUNDEWAR: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have recently signed any agreements with NRIs for setting up Food Processing Industries in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of joint ventures to be set up in the country in 1994-95;

(d) whether the entry of multinational companies in this sector will help in improving the Indian economy;

(e) whether any study has been made in this regard; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) to (f). Government accords automatic approval for upto 100% foreign equity investment by Non-Resident Indians and Overseas Corporate Bodies in the high priority industries including those in food processing industries.

166 proposals involving foreign equity investment by Non-Resident Indians, foreign companies and Overseas Corporate Bodies in respect of different sectors of food processing and deep sea fishing have been approved in the post-liberalisation period with a total investment of over Rs. 5,481 crores and foreign equity investment of Rs 2,206 crores. As per available information steps for implementing the proposals have been taken by the entrepreneurs and normally 2-3 years are required for implementation of the project. While 26 proposals have already been implemented, another 30-35 units are likely to go into production in 1994-95.

While no specific study on impact of the multinationals in the food processing industry in the Indian economy has been made, it is expected that entry of foreign companies will have the attendant benefits of inflow of modern technology, modern systems of management, market expansion, export enhancement, besides direct and indirect employment creation.

[English]

Counter Guarantee to Private Investors

*212. SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHY:
SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Bank in its World Development Report has advised the Government against giving counter guarantees to foreign investors in the power sector;

(b) if so, the details in this regard and the reaction of the Government thereto ;

(c) whether the World Bank team has visited India to undertake a study for assistance to power sector; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI N.K.P. SALVE) (a) and (b). The World Bank's Development Report 1994 in Box 5.8 pp-101 on Government Guarantees *inter-alia* observe as under:-

"Guarantees make sense when international investors' perceptions of country risk are poorer than economic conditions warrant, so that the guarantees are a strictly transitional measure for attraction broad and ultimately self-sustaining investor interest."

Government have agreed in principle to extend counter guarantee to seven initial projects cleared by Government from the angle of foreign investment. The other projects will be examined on a case to case basis in respect of projects coming initially to build up the investors' confidence in the development of private power sector. The proposed counter guarantee is to back up in a limited way the guarantee given by the State Government for payment obligations of the SEBs for the power purchased from the private companies, and does not relate to returns on investment.

(c) and (d). Though no team from the

World Bank has visited India particularly to undertake a study for assistance to the power sector, the Bank regularly despatches supervision missions for the power projects being constructed with assistance from the Bank to monitor their progress and for discussions regarding future assistance to the sector.

[Translation]

Postal Services

*213. SHRI ARJUN SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have set up a Committee to do away with the monopoly in postal services;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Committee has submitted its report;

(d) if so, the main recommendations thereof; and

(e) the action taken by the Government on each of the recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) and (b). A Committee was set up by the Government to review the Indian Post Office Act, 1898. The Committee reviewed all the provisions contained in the Post Office Act including the exclusive privilege of the Central Government to carry letters.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The main recommendations of the Act Review Committee are :-

(i) Partial relinquishment of the exclusive privilege of the Central Government to carry letters and allowing private couriers to carry letters on obtaining licence under certain given terms and conditions.

(ii) Assumption of more liability by the Postal Department for operational failures.

(iii) Incorporation of suitable enabling provisions for introduction of new services.

(iv) Modification of the regulations relating to treatment of undeliverable postal articles.

(e) So far no decision has been taken on the recommendations.

[English]

Telecom Projects

*214. SHRI DATATRAYA BANDARU: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of new telecom projects proposed to be undertaken in the Eighth Five Year Plan;

(b) the details of allotment of such new projects to respective regions and States;

(c) whether population or number of subscribers is one of the criteria for allotment of new telecom projects;

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Sir, Eighth Five Year Plan envisages expansion of the telecom network as a whole to give addition of 75 lac new telephone connections. All component projects go towards provision of these new telephone connections.

(b) As indicated above. The State-wise commissioning programme of telephones proposed during the Eighth Five Year Plan is given in the statement enclosed.

(c) The Department provides telephone connections based on registered demand at a place.

(d) Minimum registered demand required is ten or more to open a new telephone exchange.

STATEWISE COMMISSIONING PROGRAMME OF TELEPHONES PROPOSED DURING 1992-97

S. No.	Name of the State	Telephone Connections
1	2	3
1	Andhra Pradesh	514300
2	Assam	59100
3	Bihar	101000
4	Gujarat (including Dadar, Nagar Haveli, Daman & Diu)	630400
5	Haryana	230600
6	Himachal Pradesh	56400*
7	J & K	42300
8	Karnataka	475700
9	Kerala	390600
10	Madhya Pradesh	319600
11	Maharashtra (including Goa & MTNL Bombay)	1670700

S. No.	Name of the State	Telephone Connections
1	2	3
12	North East (including Arunachal Pradesh, Mizoram, Nagaland, Tripura, Manipur & Meghalaya)	25100
13	Orissa	48900
14	Punjab (including Chandigarh)	396700
15	Rajasthan	331600
16	Tamil Nadu (including Pondicherry & Madras)	634200
17	Uttar Pradesh	421000
18	West Bengal (including Sikkim, Andaman & Nicobar & Calcutta)	181800
19	Delhi	970000
		Total
		7500000

Cargo Support Scheme

*216. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to introduce a modified cargo support scheme;

(b) if so, the basic objectives of the scheme;

(c) whether the scheme is likely to result in earning and saving foreign exchange;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time by which the scheme is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The Government have approved a Modified Cargo Support Scheme with basic objective of providing, in a phased manner, 40% of liner cargo in terms of value (freight) moving from/to India to the Indian shipping lines.

(c) and (d). The present share of Indian lines in India's overseas liner trade is about 15% which would be increased to 40% by successful implementation of the Scheme. This would result in considerable savings/earnings of foreign exchange which is now paid as freight.

(e) The Indian National Shipowners Association has already been requested to constitute a Committee called the Committee on Liner Cargo Allocation (COLCA) at the

major ports with representatives from Indian Shipping lines and shippers/Exporters Association for implementation of this Scheme.

Value-Added Telecom Services

*217. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to keep in abeyance the approval of the six joint venture projects in value-added telecom services;

(b) if so, the details of the proposed joint ventures approved by the Foreign Investment Promotion Board indicating their foreign partners;

(c) the reasons for the Government's re-thinking in the programme;

(d) whether the aforesaid decision of the Government will delay the start of radio programmes as fixed earlier; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) No Sir.

(b) The list of ventures approved by FIPB for value Added Telecom Services is given in the enclosed statement.

(c) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

(d) No Sir.

(e) Does not arise in view of (d) above.

STATEMENT

STATEMENT COMMISSIONING PROGRAMME OF TELEPHONES PROPOSED DURING 1992-97.

SL. NO.	Name of the Indian Company	Foreign Collaborator	Equity%	Item
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Indian Telecom Pvt. Ltd. New Delhi	OTC International LTD, Australia	50	Voice Mail Services
2.	Amadeus Investment and Finance Ltd., Bombay.	Telestra Holding PTY Ltd., Australia	40	Providing Data Commn. Services.
3.	Telephonphone Information Serv. New Delhi	Telephone Information PLC, United Kingdom	50	Value Added Telephone Audio Text Service
4.	Word Phone India Pvt. Ltd, New Delhi.	World Phone Inc U.S.A.	40	Audio Tex Services
5.	Sprint RPG India Ltd	Sprint U.S.A.	50	E- Mail
6.	Data PRO	NRI		

Visit of Foreign Minister of Germany

*219. SHRIMATI DIL KUMAR BHANDARI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Foreign Minister of Germany visited India recently,

(b) whether any discussions of mutual interest were held during the visit;

(c) whether any agreements were signed during the discussions;

(d) if so, the salient features thereof; and

(e) the steps being taken to implement them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED) : (a) to (e). The Foreign Minister of the Federal Republic of Germany, Dr. Klaus Kinkel, paid an official visit to India from 27-29 July 1994 at the invitation of the Minister of External Affairs. Dr. Kinkel called on the President, the Prime Minister and the Hon'able Speaker of the Lok Sabha. He held talks with EAM, Finance Minister and Home Minister. A 24-member high level business delegation accompanying Dr. Kinkel was jointly addressed by him and the Finance Minister, interacted extensively with Indian counterparts, and was also briefed on our economic liberation programme by a panel of senior officials.

The principal subjects covered in talks with Dr. Kinkel included the promotion of bilateral trade and investment, the situation in Bosnia, Indo-Pak relations and liberal cooperation on global issues, particularly at the UN. Our concerns related to cross-border terrorism in Jammu & Kashmir were conveyed to Dr. Kinkel. The German Minister underlined

the central position occupied by India in terms of Germany's Asia Concept policy and stressed the importance attached by them to developing closer relations with India on the basis of partnership in political, economic and cultural fields. Dr. Kinkel reaffirmed German support for the resolution of Indo-Pak issues through bilateral dialogue and welcomed India's policy of transparency on human rights. He indicated Germany's strong interest in permanent membership of the UN Security Council and expressed support for a permanent seat for India in that UN body.

During Dr. Kinkel's visit, a Bilateral Financial Assistance Agreement was concluded providing for a total of DM 460 million in assistance for India during 1994-95. German assistance is to be utilised for mutually identified developmental projects.

The German business delegation accompanying Dr. Kinkel was urged to explore more actively prospects for investments in the areas of power, energy, coal, telecommunications, environment-friendly technologies, modernisation of roads and ports and agro-processing. The German business delegation evinced keen interest in increasing their presence in the Indian market through investments, particularly in the fields of power, chemicals and the entire range of transportation infrastructure.

Videsh Snchar Nigam Limited

*220. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to revamp Videsh Sanchar Nigam Limited;

(b) if so, the steps taken in that regard; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI
SUKH RAM) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise in view of 'a'
above.

(c) Videsh Sanchar Nigam Ltd. was
formed on 1-4-86 by converting the erstwhile
Overseas Communication Service under the
Ministry of Communications into a public
sector undertaking. There is no reason to
revamp the company as it is a well-organised,
profit making Public Sector Enterprise
showing consistently impressive results.

Services of Telegraph Department

2025. SHRI RAM KAPSE : Will the
Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased
to state:

(a) whether the Government have
received complaints from the residents of
Thane district in Maharashtra about the
services of the Telegraph department;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken or proposed to be
taken by Government to set the Telegraph
services right and redress the grievances of
the public?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI
SUKH RAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The services rendered by available
five telegraph offices in Thane Distt. are
satisfactory and no complaints in this regard
have been received. As far as the services
rendered through combined post offices are

concerned, the following three complaints
were received.

(1) Suggestion dated 20-2-93 from one
Mr. S. K. GAIKWAD, regarding opening of
Telegraph offices at Bhayandar and Miraroad.

(2) Suggestion dated 16-3-93 from Shri
Ashok Bandekar regarding providing of
Morse/TP Machine at Kasarra combined
office.

(3) Complaint dated 25-9-93 addressed
to Hon'ble Communication Minister from Shri
O. P. Sharma regarding general working of
Telegraph Offices in Thane District and
suggestion to replace Morse working to
Teleprinters, etc.

No Complaints/Suggestions were
received after September, 1993.

(c) The following action has been taken
to improve the telegraph service rendered
through combined offices:

(i) Slow speed morse working at the
Seven combined post offices (including
Bhayandar combined Post and Telegraph
office) in Thane District has been replaced
by fast working terminals parented from the
automatic message switching system at
Bombay directly.

(ii) In addition to (i) above, one Electronic
Key Board Concentrator (EKBC) for
automatic transmission on reception of
messages to and from combined offices has
also been provided at Kalyan Telegraph
office in Thane District.

The following action is proposed to be
taken to improve the telegraph services
rendered through combined offices:

(i) Due to low volume of traffic, opening

of an independent telegraph office at Bhayandar and Miraroad is not feasible at present. However, it is planned to link Mira Road combined Post and Telegraph Office with Bhayandar combined Post and Telegraph office on Morse circuit.

(ii) Since low telegraph traffic at the combined Post and Telegraph office, Kasarra does not justify provision of morse/TP machine, action is being taken to connect Kasarra combined post and Telegraph office to Shahapur combined Post and Telegraph Office for its smooth functioning.

(iii) Eight Telecom Centres approved for opening at Thane district will be opened as soon as suitable accommodation becomes available.

[Translation]

Kahal Super Thermal Power Project

2026. SHRI LALIT ORAON: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the value of the coal, transported by M.G.R. from Lal Matiya Mine (E.C.L. Project) which has damaged due to closer of Kahal Gaon Super Thermal Power Project;

(b) the number of the officers responsible for the loss and the action taken by the Government against them so far; and

(c) whether any test has been carried out to find the quantum of calorific in this coal, and if so, the result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) The Kahalgaon Super Thermal Power Project (Stage I) of the National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) comprises 4 units of 210 MW each. The 1st

Unit was commissioned in March, 1992 and the 11nd Unit in March, 1994. Units III and IV are expected to be synchronised in 1995-96. Efforts are being made to bring the units I and II into commercial operation. About 1.3 lakh tonnes of coal were transported by Merry Go Round (MGR) from M/s. ECL's Lalmatia area mines. This coal has not suffered any damage. Therefore, the question of assigning any value for damage does not arise.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The coal available at Kahalgaon Super Thermal Power Project has been tested and the calorific value is in the range of 3000-3200 Kilo Calorie/kg., which is the same as the average calorific value of the coal received from Lalmatia Mines.

[English]

LPG Production

2027. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the target for L.P.G. production during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) the target of L.P.G. production fixed for the current financial year;

(c) the consumption of LPG during the last three years, year-wise; and

(d) whether the production has met the demand and if not, the steps the Government have taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) The annual production targets of LPG from Refineries and Fractionators

during the years 1991-92, 1992-93 and 1993-94 were 2095, 2278 and 2481 TMTPA respectively.

(b) The target of LPG production fixed for the current financial year 1994-95 is 2516 TMT.

(c) The consumption of LPG during the last three years 1991-92, 1992-93 and 1993-94 were about 2650, 2873 and 3103 TMT respectively.

(d) There are proposals to increase the production of LPG through commissioning of new refineries and fractionators and augmenting LPG production capacities at some of the existing production sources. In addition, there will be some LPG production from private sector refineries.

Illegal Exchanges in Bombay

2028. SHRI RAM NAIK: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any case of illegal mini telephone exchanges at Ghatkopar (Bombay) and Mumbra (Thane) in Maharashtra has been noticed by the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action taken proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard; and

(d) the steps taken proposed to be taken to ensure that such incidents do not recur elsewhere in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) and (b). These were not mini-telephone exchanges. At Ghatkopar, a

TAX Junction was tapped and was being used with the Multi Frequency (MF) dialer on a line having a conference facility instrument. Illegal Subscribers Trunk Dialling/ International Subscribers Dialling (STD/ISD) calls were being originated.

At Mumbra, a subscriber used to tap another subscribers' Line from the same building to make STD calls.

The cases were tapping of TAX circuit and tapping of subscriber's line.

(c) Three officials involved in the Ghatkopar TAX Junction tapping case have been placed under suspension. The subscriber who tapped the line in Mumbra (Thane) has been arrested by the police.

(d) The TAX junctions are being diverted on PCM media by passing MDFs for avoiding tapping of TAX circuits at MDFs.

Threshold observations in electronic exchanges have been introduced to find out whether any line is being diverted for misuse.

Subscribers are advised to avail dynamic STD locking facility in E-10B exchanges.

Surprise and frequent inspections are being carried out by vigilance squad.

[Translation]

Trees Along Side National Highways

2029. DR. VASANT NIWRUTTI PAWAR: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to plant trees alongside the National Highways;

(b) if so, whether any private agencies or voluntary organisations have been entrusted with this job;

(c) whether any special fund has been allocated for this purpose; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Plantation of trees along National Highways is an accepted policy of the Government for the last several years, and is a continuing activity depending on availability of land within the right-of-way where plantation can be done adequacy of funds, etc.

(b) and (c). No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Length of National Highways in Gujarat

2030. SHRI N.J. RATHVA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of national highways in Gujarat and the total length thereof;

(b) the percentage of length of these national highways as compared to the total length of national highways in the country; and

(c) the details of construction work going on at present on various national highways in Gujarat?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a): Gujarat is served by six National Highways and one Expressway (under construction) having a

total length of 1631 km.

(b) 4.79%

(c) Development of National Highways is a continuous process. 41 Road works and 19 Bridge works costing more than Rs. 50 lakh each are under different stages of execution.

LPG Agencies in U.P.

2031. SHRI HARI KEWAL PRASAD: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of LPG agencies in Uttar Pradesh at present; and

(b) the present position of demand and supply of LPG in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) As on 1.4.1994, there were 479 LPG distributorships functioning in Uttar Pradesh.

(b) The average LPG demand in U.P. for the existing cutomers is around 25,000 MTs per month, and this is being met in full by the industry.

[English]

Shell Lubricants

2032: SHRI RAMCHANDRA GHANGARE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS BE PLEASED TO STATE:

(a) the salient features of the protocol signed between Bharat Petroleum Corporation and Shell International for

blending and marketing of shell lubricants in India;

(b) whether the initial blending of Shell branded lubricants be carried out at BPCL;

(c) if so, by what time the joint venture company is likely to set up its own blending plants; and

(d) the future of the existing blending plants of the Bharat Petroleum Corporation including its manpower?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) The salient features of the agreement between Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd. (BPC) and Shell Overseas Investments B.V. (Shell), for blending and marketing of shell-branded lubricants in India, are:

- (i) BPC and Shell will set up a Joint Venture Company (JVC) in India, with 49% equity participation by BPC and 51% by Shell (or one of its affiliates)
- (ii) The Authorised and paid-up Capital of the proposed JVC will be Rs. 139 crores and Rs. 32.50 crores respectively. Shell will subscribe to their portion of equity in foreign exchange.
- (iii) Shell, through its wholly owned subsidiary, Shell International Petroleum Company, will provide to the JVC the latest technology on blending, formulation, handling and distribution of lubricants, design construction and operation of lubricants blending plants; training of employees; relevant technical

services in support of lubricants business; latest developments on R&D of lubricants and their formulations, etc.

- (iv) BPC will provide its network of depots and retail outlets for storage, distribution and sale of the JVC products, for which the JVC will pay suitable compensation to BPC.

(b) Yes, Sir

(c) It is anticipated that the JVC will have its first blending plant by 1996.

(d) BPC's existing blending plant would continue to blend BPC's range of automotive and industrial lubricants.

Training Institute for Youth

2033. SHRI JITENDRA NATH DAS : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have set up any institutes to train the youth in food processing and preservation;

(b) if so, the names of these institutes with their locations;

(c) whether the Government propose to set up new training institutes in 1994-95; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) to (d). Although, the Ministry of Food Processing Industries does not directly set up any Institute to train the Youth in food processing and preservation, under a plan scheme. Ministry provides assistance for setting up of Food Processing Training

Centres (FPTCs) in rural areas. Under the scheme, during the first 2 years of 8th plan, assistance has been provided for setting up of 121 FPTCs in various States, out of which 22 FPTCs have started functioning. The

State-wise details of the FPTCs assisted and those which have already started functioning is given in the enclosed statement. In 1994-95, assistance would be extended for establishment of another 50 such Centres.

STATEMENT

S.NO.	Name of the State	No. of FPTCs assisted	No. of FPTC functioning with location
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1	-
2.	Assam	11	-
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	2	-
4.	Bihar	9	3 Ranchi, Angara & Gumla
5.	Gujarat	1	-
6.	Goa	1	-
7.	Haryana	8	2 Gurgaon
8.	Himachal Pradesh	54	1 Shogi
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	1	-
10.	Karnataka	4	2 Habbal, Hulkoti
11.	Kerala	1	-

SNO.	Name of the State	No. of FPTCs assisted	No. of FPTC functioning with location
1	2	3	4
12.	Maharashtra	3	-
13.	Mizoram	7	4 Sairang, Vairengta, Khawzawl & Chingchhip.
14.	Madhya Pradesh	2	-
15.	Orissa	30	-
16.	Rajasthan	2	-
17.	Tamil Nadu	4	-
18.	Tripura	1	-
19.	Uttar Pradesh	20	2 Deoria & Allahabad/Illa
20.	West Bengal	9	8 Baruipur, South 24-Parganas, Howrah, Burdwan, North 24 Parganas, Jhargram, Belpathari, South 24-Parganas.
Total		121	22

Haj Cell

2034. **SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR:** Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have set up a Haj Cell;

(b) if so, the composition and activities for the last three years along with the assistance/facilities offered to Haj pilgrimage in India and abroad.

(c) whether Haj Pilgrims this year have been discriminated against when Air India was not organising flights for them;

(d) if so, the steps being taken by the Government in this regard;

(e) whether there is any difference in air services and fare involved for Haj Pilgrimage; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) Yes Sir. There is a Haj Cell in the Ministry of External Affairs.

(b) The Haj Cell has an Officer on Special Duty, a Section Officer, two Assistants and a clerk. Its strength and facilities are augmented during the Haj season. There is a Joint Secretary in charge of the Haj Cell whose activities are overseen by Secretary and at the Ministerial level.

Haj Cell is the nodal point in the Government of India for coordinating all arrangements for Haj. It liaises with the Central and State Haj Committees, various

Ministries of the Government of India like Civil Aviation, Surface Transport, Home Affairs and Finance, and our Missions in Saudi Arabia for making arrangements for the Haj pilgrims.

Assistance and facilities offered to pilgrims include fixation of Haj quota, release of foreign exchange, carriage of pilgrims by air/sea, accommodation in the two holy cities in Saudi Arabia, pre-departure immigration/health formalities, work connected with the Haj Goodwill Delegation, despatch of Building Renting Delegation and Building Selection Team medical/educational/administrative contingents to Saudi Arabia, supply of medicines for the benefit of pilgrims, despatch of Khuddam-ul-Hujjaj (Haj volunteers) from various states and review of the arrangements with a view to improving facilities and services.

(c) and (d). NO, Sir. There is no discrimination against Haj pilgrims. Air charters are being organised by Air India which has, during the last two years, been unable to provide them on its own without disruption of its own flights due to capacity constraints. All efforts are made to ensure that the charter services are up to acceptable international standards.

(e) and (f). The cost of charter is not fully passed on to the pilgrims. For Haj-1994, as against charter cost of Rs. 17,000 per pilgrim the Haj fare payable by a pilgrim was fixed at Rs. 12,000.

[Translation]

Telephone Connection to Panchayat in Bihar

2035. **SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI:** Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of ISD/STD/PCO installed in Bihar at present and the number out of them functioning, district-wise; and

(b) the total number of telephones provided to various Panchayats, district-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI

SUKH RAM): (a) The total number of ISD/STD/PCO installed in Bihar at present is 2086. The STD PCOs functioning district-wise are given in the enclosed Statement-I.

(b) The total number of telephones provided to various Panchayats is 5288. The district-wise figures are given in the enclosed statement-II.

Statement-I

District wise STD/ISD (upto May'94.)

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Telecom District</i>	<i>ISD/STD</i>
1.	Patna	307
2.	Ranchi	301
3.	Darbhanga	274
4.	Muzaffarpur	230
5.	Chapra	110
6.	Katihar	098
7.	Bhagalpur	080
8.	Arrah	056
9.	Sasaram	064
10.	Gaya	113
11.	Dhanbad	119
12.	Jamshedpur	215
13.	Hazaribagh	118
Total		2086

Statement-II*District wise Gram Panchayat (upto May'94.)*

Sl.No.	Telecom District	No.
1.	Patna	258
2.	Ranchi	511
3.	Darbhanga	269
4.	Muzaffarpur	185
5.	Chapra	752
6.	Katihar	576
7.	Bhagalpur	1019
8.	Arrah	152
9.	Sasaram	452
10.	Gaya	537
11.	Dhanbad	074
12.	Jamshedpur	158
13.	Hazaribagh	345
Total:		5288

Revenue from Telephone Service

2036. SHRI AMAL DATTA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the revenue derived from telephone services of the MTNL and Government

controlled services respectively with appropriate breakup for States, large cities, urban areas and rural areas; and

(b) the comparison of the revenue derived from local, STD and ISD calls and the cost incurred for each such service?

S. NO.	Name of State	Development		Maintenance & Repairs	
		1	2	3	4
13.	Kerala			3088.00	726.15
14.	Madhya Pradesh			4850.00	1316.28
15.	Maharashtra			3080.00	1846.54
16.	Manipur			300.00	130.47
17.	Meghalaya			470.00	231.13
18.	Nagaland			445.12	7.29
19.	Orissa			1350.00	1016.11
20.	Pondicherry			50.00	16.02
21.	Punjab			2200.00	661.30
22.	Rajasthan			4200.00	1339.97
23.	Tamil Nadu			3150.00	1643.67
24.	Uttar Pradesh			4750.00	1710.52
25.	West Bengal			3500.00	1760.45

Chances in Criteria for Post Offices

2038. SHRI DHARMA BHIKASHAM: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken any decision to revise the existing criteria for opening of new Post Offices in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) to (c). There is no proposal to revise the norms for opening of post offices in normal areas. However, norms for opening of post offices in tribal, hilly, desert and inaccessible areas are being reviewed with a view to further liberalising them.

Dredging of Haldia Channel

2039. SHRI SATYAGOPAL MISRA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the dredging works at Giggerkhali flat located at the upstream end of Haldia channel has been stopped since 1991;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to start the dredging work without further delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). Yes Sir. The contractor failed to execute the project.

(c). Dredging Corporation of India have agreed to start the work after the monsoon season is over.

Supply of Cables in Kerala

2040. SHRI V. S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether most of the telephone exchanges expanded under the Kerala circle do not have adequate supply of cables to provide phone connections;

(b) if so, the details with reasons therefor; and

(c) the action taken to improve supply of cable and other stores to Kerala Telecom Circle?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Does not arise.

[Translation]

ISD/STD/PCO in M.P.

2041. SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHAUHAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of I.S.D./S.T.D./P.C.Os. in Vidisha, Raisen and Sehore districts of Madhya Pradesh;

(b) the amount outstanding against the P.C.O. Operators for 1993-94 and 1994-95 till date; and

(c) the action being taken to recover the outstanding amount?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) There are 28, 27 and 14

STD/ISD/PCOs working in Vidisha, Raisen and Sehore districts of Madhya Pradesh respectively.

(b)	Name of District	Amount outstanding (in Rs)	
		1993-94	1994-95
	Vidisha	-	6,483
	Raisen	852	8,477
	Sehore	99,812	1,20,117

(c) Special efforts are being made to recover the outstanding dues, resulting in recovery of about 2 lakhs in the last two months.

[English]

Incentives/Assistance to Sportsmen

2042. SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any financial assistance/incentive is being granted to outstanding Sportsmen/Umpires/Refrees by his department;

(b) if so, the number of sportsmen who were given such assistance/incentive during each of the last three years, circle-wise; and

(c) the quantum of such assistance granted during the above mentioned period, circle-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Yes, Sir. Incentive is being granted to outstanding sports persons for

achieving excellence in All India, national/international events. Additional increments are also granted to outstanding sports persons for achieving excellence in national/international events as per standing instructions of Government of India. However, no financial assistance/incentive is being granted to the Umpires/Refrees.

(b) and (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

Waiting List for LPG Connections in Agra

2043. SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons in waiting list for LPG connections in Agra upto March 31, 1994;

(b) the number of applicants to whom LPG connections are proposed to be provided each year;

(c) whether the Government have received representations to provide LPG connections to the applicants on priority basis in Agra in order to save the Taj from the environmental pollution;

(d) whether there is any scheme under consideration of the Government in this regard; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) A total of about 99,885 persons have registered their names with LPG distributors for LPG connections in Agra, Uttar Pradesh as on 31.3.1994.

(b) New LPG connections are released each year taking into consideration the waiting list, slack available with the distributors, their viability, annual enrolment plan and availability of the product.

(c) to (e). There were suggestions to provide LPG on a priority to the residents of Mathura, Agra Region with a view to curb pollution. Efforts are constantly on to release LPG connections to as many applicants and as early as possible. Plans have been drawn for higher availability of LPG by increasing the capacity of existing production sources, putting up new plants and augmenting the supply through higher imports.

[English]

Satellite Communication Network

2044. DR. K.D. JESWANI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any NRI group has sought

permission to set up a satellite communication network system in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) M/s Matrix Paging (India) Pvt. Ltd., Bombay has sent a proposal for Satellite based 64 kbps V-SAT Private Data Domestic Network in the country. This company is a Joint venture company with 50:50 equity participation between M/s. Matrix Australia (foreign company) and M/S Technicom Services India Pvt. Ltd. (Indian company). The Indian company is an NRI company. Their proposal is under study.

Oil and Natural Gas Exploration in Andhra Pradesh

2045. SHRI YELLAIAH NANDI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any new exploration project either by indigenous entrepreneurs or with foreign collaboration are under consideration of Government at present;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when these are likely to be cleared and the reasons for delay in clearing them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) (a) to (c). In keeping with the Government's liberalised policy for attracting private investment in oil exploration Government of India have since 1991 from time to time been inviting Indian and foreign companies for exploration of oil and gas in

specified blocks in India. The bids received under the Fifth Round are under consideration of the Government. In case of Sixth Round the negotiations are being held with the bidders whereas bids received under the Seventh Round are under evaluation.

[Translation]

Potato Processing Plant in U.P.

2047. SHRI RAM PUJAN PATEL: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any proposal for setting up of a potato processing plant in Uttar Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

Agro based Industries

2048. SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM:
SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA:
SHRI RAJESH KUMAR:

Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the total capital involved in the investment proposals received to set up agro-based industries during the last three years, State-Wise;

(b) the details of foreign investment proposals which have been accorded approval during this period; and

(c) the time by when these proposals are likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) Since liberalisation till June, 1994, 2680 Industrial Entrepreneur Memoranda involving an investment of about Rs. 34,469 crores have been filed for setting up food processing industries. State-Wise details are given in the enclosed statement. Besides proposals for setting up 100% EOU's, Joint Ventures/foreign collaboration etc., involving a total investment of Rs. 7060 crores have also been approved.

(b) Foreign investment in these proposals amounts to about Rs. 2206 crores.

(c) Such units normally take a period of 2-3 years for implementation.

STATEMENT

STATE WISE SUMMARY OF IEMs FILED UP TO JAN 1994

Sl. No.	Name of the State.	No. of IEMs Filed.	(Rs. in thousands)		
			Proposed Employment.	Proposed Investment.	
1	2	3	4	5	
1.	Andhra Pradesh	161	37733	11964229	
2.	Assam	2	104	1780300	
3.	Bihar	15	1380	157422	
4.	Gujarat	191	31136	29464890	
5.	Himachal Pradesh	320	58003	29701737	
6.	Himachal Pradesh	31	5243	257779	
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	7	810	208903	
8.	Karnataka	58	5937	3089868	
9.	Kerala	16	3131	2482044	
10.	Madhya Pradesh	232	35992	21593039	
11.	Maharashtra	371	61618	81184883	
12.	Manipur	0	0	0	
13.	Meghalaya	1	50	50000	
14.	Nagaland	1	140	8400	
15.	Orissa	12	2378	558760	
16.	Punjab	230	64926	29876074	

Sl No.	Name of the State.	No. of IEMs Filed.	Proposed Employment.	Proposed Investment.
1	2	3	4	5
17.	Rajasthan	268	43618	3013449
18.	Tamil Nadu	84	8834	5377301
19.	Tripura	0	0	0
20.	Uttar Pradesh	547	103711	81564980
21.	West Bengal	58	9549	940287
22.	Sikkim	1	85	18000
23.	Andaman Nikobar	1	260	45000
24.	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0
25.	Chandigarh	2	320	61905
26.	Dadar & Nagar Haveli	8	427	237977
27.	Delhi	41	3735	915488
28.	Daman & Diu	6	502	95000
29.	L M & A Islands	0	0	0
30.	Mizoram	0	0	0
31.	Pondicherry	9	1411	251230
32.	Goa	7	904	587000
Grand Total-		2680	481937	344691945

Losses on Gulf Crisis

2049. SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India is likely to received a sum of Eight Thousand crores as losses compensation of various kinds arising from Gulf crisis of 1990-91;

(b) whether the modalities of payments have been finalised in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). The United Nations Compensation Commission is still processing claims so it is not possible to predetermine timings or quantum of payments which may finally be approved by UNCC, Geneva. However, in anticipation of receiving payments from UNCC Geneva and for convenience of claimants it has been decided to disburse compensation amounts to be received from the UNCC to successful claimant through four nationalised banks. Allocation of States among banks is as under.

<i>Sr. No.</i>	<i>Name of the Bank</i>	<i>Name of States/UTs allocated</i>
1.	Syndicate Bank	Karnataka, Goa, Lakshdeep and claimants residing abroad at the time of filing claims.
2.	Union Bank of India	Kerala, Bihar, West Bengal, Orissa and all NE States
3.	Indian Oversease Bank	Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Pondicherry(UT) and Andaman & Nicobar (UT)
4.	Central Bank of India	Maharashtra, Gujarat, Dadar Nagar Haveli, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh Delhi, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir and Punjab.

[Translation]

Employment to Family Member of Deceased in Road Accidents

2050. SHRI GOVINDA CHANDRA

MUNDA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any provision to provide employment to one member of the family of the person who dies in road accident;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether there is any such proposal under the consideration of the Government; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT: (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) (a) to (e). There are no provisions in the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 to provide employment to any member of the family of the person who dies in road accident. The road accident victim/their heirs are granted monetary compensation by the statutorily constituted Accidents Claim Tribunals, on the basis of the merits of a case.

[English]

Emission Standard for Two Wheelers

2051. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to introduce stringent emission standard for two wheelers; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). Yes Sir. The revised norms which are to come into force from 1st April, 1996, are as follows:

Two wheelers (for all categories)

CO	-	gms/ 1 km	6.75
HC + NOX	-	gms/ 1 KM	5.40

10% relaxation in the standards for Carbon Monoxide and 20% in combined HC & NOX for the COP volumes would be given.

Hooghly Dock and Ports Engineers Limited

2052. SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to invest huge funds for modernisation and expansion of Hooghly Dock and ports Engineers Limited; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER):

(a) and (b). Government had spent Rs.43.23 crores since the take over of HDPE IN 1984 TILL 31.3.1994. There is no proposal at present to invest huge funds for modernisation and expansion of the company.

Passport Applications

2053. SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI: Will the MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applications pending with each of the passport offices as on July 31, 1994 and since when these applications are pending; and

(b) the steps being taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to clear this backlog?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

Telephone Meters

2054. SHRI DHARMANNA MONDAYYA SADUL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to install meters at the telephone subscribers premises;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The proposal for installing meters at the subscribers premises was examined and found to be technically non-feasible.

[English]

Rebate in Telephone Bills

2055. SHRI NARAIN SINGH CHAUDHARY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases in Delhi where telephones remained out of order for 15 days

and rental rebate has not been given to the subscribers; and

(b) the action proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) and (b). Sir, the information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Conductors for Telephones

2056. SHRI KRISHAN DUTT SULTANPURI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether conductors required for telephones were purchased during the last one year;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with names of companies from where these conductors were purchased;

(c) whether any case of purchase of old equipments were reported;

(d) if so, the details thereof and action taken in this regard; and

(e) the quantum of funds set apart for purchase of equipment for electronic exchanges during 1994-95?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) to (e). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Indian Council for Cultural Relations

2057. SHRI AJOY MUKHOPADYAY: Will the Minister of

External Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to improve further the working of the Indian Council for Cultural Relations; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) and (b). The working of the Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) is constantly reviewed to improve its functioning and to enhance its activities.

As per constitution of the ICCR, the three statutory authorities are:

(i) General Assembly

(ii) Governing Body

(iii) Finance Committee

The three statutory authorities at regular intervals review the functioning of the ICCR. The statutory authorities of the Council are facilitated with advice from the Advisory Committees constituted to examine and review all aspects of ICCR's activities. The Advisory Committees constituted to assist the three statutory authorities of ICCR are as follows:

(i) Committee on Budget and Plan of Action

(ii) Committee to Review ICCR Constitution

(iii) Empanelment Advisory Committee

In Addition, the Standing Committee of Parliament on Ministry of External Affairs have also reviewed the functioning and activities of ICCR in detail.

Communication Network in Goa

2058. SHRI HARISH NARAYAN PRABHU ZANTYE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the communication network in Goa has not been operating properly for the last few years;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to improve the operational performance of communication network in Goa;

(d) whether there is any proposal to set up modern electronic communication system in the State; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Replacement of old exchanges by modern electronic exchanges has been taken up for improving operational performance of communication network. Except one exchange, all exchanges are now electronic in Goa Telecom District. This exchange is also proposed to be converted into electronic one during current financial year subject to availability of equipment.

(d) Yes Sir.

(e) Following medium and large size exchanges are proposed to be installed in Goa, subject to availability of sufficient funds and supply of equipment in time during 1994-95:-

Name	Type	Capacity
Madgaon	EICB	6 K
Porvorim	RLU Exp	1 K
Quepem	ILT 512 P	384 Lines
Ponda	CDOT 512 P	1.4 K
Assolna	CDOT 512 P	1200 Lines
Bicholim	CDOT 512 P	1000 Lines
Cuncholim	CDOT 512	1000 Lines
Sanguem	CDOT 512 P	424 Lines

Supply of Petrol/Diesel and Kerosene to Gujarat

2059. SHRI DILEEPBHAI SANGHANI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any fresh request for the additional supply of petrol, diesel and kerosene have received from State Governments particularly from the Gujrat Government; and

(b) if so, the quantum of items required and supplied during the first quarter of this year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS. (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) and (b). Petrol and diesel are supplied in full as per the requirement all over the country. Kerosene is an allocated product. Central Government makes bulk

allocation to the States on historical basis, who manage its retail distribution.

Requests are received for additional allocation of kerosene from time to time. However, on account of constraints of product availability, foreign exchange and heavy subsidy involved, it is not possible to meet the full demand of the States. Moderate increase has been given to Gujarat during the past year and the current year.

The consumption of petrol, diesel and kerosene in Gujrat during the first quarter of 1994-95 is given below:-

	* Figs. in Tmts.
Petrol	75.62
Diesel	439.69
Kerosene	190.86

* = Provisional

Development of National Highway 49

2060. SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made so far with regard to the construction works being undertaken on National Highway 49;

(b) the time by which these works are likely to be completed; and

(c) the funds earmarked during 1994-95 for development of National Highway 49 from Cochin to Muvattupuzha, Muvattupuzha to Neriya Mangalam, Neriya Mangalam to Munnar and from Munnar to Madurai respectively?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). Out of 23 works at various stages of progress on NH 49, eleven works are likely to be completed during 1994-95 and the remaining 12 works during 1995-96 subject to availability of funds.

(c) Funds are allocated to the State for the National Highways as a whole and not work-wise. During 1994-95, a sum of Rs. 48 crore has been allocated for development of National Highways passing through Kerala and Tamil Nadu including National Highway No. 49.

Postal Advisory Committee in Maharashtra

2061. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Postal Advisory Committee has been set up in Maharashtra; and

(b) if so, the details of its composition and terms of reference?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

STD/ISD PCOs In Delhi

2062. SHRI B.L. SHARMA PREM: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applications received by Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited in Delhi for allotment of PCOs with I.S.D. and S.T.D. facilities during 1993-94 and 1994-95;

(b) the number of persons out of them provided with this facility, the number of applications rejected and pending and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the time by which the remaining applications are likely to be disposed of?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) 961 and 700 applications were received by Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited for allotment of PCOs with ISD facilities during 1993-94 and 1994-95 respectively.

(b) Out of the total 1661 applicants, 393 applicants have been provided with STD/ISD PCOs. 474 applications have been rejected and 794 applications are pending.

Most of the above pending cases are held up due to completion of documents by

the applicants and also due to technical reasons viz. exchange capacity constraints and technical feasibility etc.

(c) The remaining applications are likely to be cleared by 31st March, 1995 subject to technical feasibility and completion of departmental formalities by the applicants.

[English]

Dhansiri Valley Project

2063. SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a well named BRDD of Bortholla in Bortholla Changdang oil field in Assam was exploded in March, 1994;

(b) if so, the losses suffered due to explosion in the said well;

(c) whether the Government have ordered investigation into the cause of such explosion; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) There was a blow out at well BRDD in Bortholla Changdang oil field.

(b) : There was no loss of life.

(c) : No, Sir.

(d) : Does not arise.

Varapuzha Bridge

2064. PROF. K.V. THOMAS: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of bridge on National Highways given to private firms for construction and toll collection;

(b) whether Varapuzha bridges in Cochin is likely to come under this category;

(c) the progress made so far with regard to the construction of the bridge; and

(d) the time by which it is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (d). The Government has been contemplating to involve the Private Sector participation on fee-based facilities on Highway Sector on Build, Operate and Transfer (EOT) basis, and certain projects *inter-alia* including the Varapuzha bridge in Kerala have been identified for the purpose. Construction of Varapuzha bridge has been sanctioned. However, the broad modalities of the proposal for private sector are yet to be given final shape by the Government. It is, therefore, too early to indicate the likely time by which the work will be completed.

[Translation]

Accident claims paid by D.T.C.

2065. DR. LAL BAHADUR RAWAL: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount paid by D.T.C. as accident claims during 1993-94 and 1994-95

till June;

(b) whether there is any proposal to introduce 'Insurance Scheme' to avoid losses to the D.T.C. on account of bus accidents and payment of claims; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) The details of accident claims paid by DTC are as under:—

Year	Amount (Rs. in lakhs).
1993-94	447.99
1994-95 (upto June, 94)	83.16
Total:	531.15

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Gas Pipeline from Pakistan

2066. DR. RAMKRISHNA KUSMARIA:
DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Pakistan has agreed for the extension of gas pipeline upto India;

(b) whether any talks were held in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND

NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) to (c). No gas pipeline project is under discussion with the Government of Pakistan.

Theft of Oil from Pipelines

2067. SHRI MAHESH KANODIA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the theft of oil being made from pipelines by an organised gang in Gujarat in collusion with officials of Oil and Natural Gas Commission:

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken to check the cases of theft; and

(c) the number of officials belonging to the Oil and Natural Gas Commission found involved in the theft of oil and the action taken against them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) and (b). ONGC Ltd. have detected incidents of thefts of oil from pipelines in Gujarat by various gangs. During 1992 and 1993, nine such gangs have been identified by ONGC and the members of the gangs are being prosecuted.

In addition to the measures such as joint inspection by Security and production personnel, fencing of oil wells with barbed wires, underground laying of flow lines instead of exposed ones and deploying armed guards in theft prone areas, ONGC have inducted CISF personnel and introduced air surveillance of oil fields/pipelines by helicopters.

(c) One employee of ONGC was found

involved in oil theft. He has been placed under suspension and departmental proceedings initiated against him. He is also facing trial in a Court of Law along with others involved in the thefts.

[English]

Tapti Gas Fields

2068. SHRI SHIVLAL NAGJIIBHAI
VEKARIA:

SHRI SHANKERSINH
VAGHELA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM
AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to award development of Tapti Gas Field to a private party;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any commitment was made earlier to earmark gas from Tapti fields for power plants at Pipavav;

(d) if so, the reasons for not honouring the commitment and diverting Tapti gas to HBJ pipeline;

(e) whether the gas now produced in Tapti field is sufficient to meet the shortfall at Hazira and the proposed power plant at pipavav; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE
(INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE
MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND
NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR
SHARMA): (a) and (b). The Government has
approved the finalisation of contract for

development of Mid and South Tapti field with a consortium of Enron Exploration Company of USA and Reliance Industries of India.

(c) and (d). The decision to bring gas from Mid Tapti and South Tapti to Hazira was taken in view of the allocation of gas from Gandhar to the power projects in Gujarat.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

[Translation]

New Telephone Exchanges in M.P.

2069. SHRI PAWAN DIWAN:
SHRI SURAJBHANU
SOLANKI:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS
be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set-up new telephone exchanges in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, the location and capacity of each exchange;

(c) the time by which these are likely to be commissioned; and

(d) the expenditure likely to be incurred thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI
SUKH RAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) These are likely to be commissioned by March '95.

(d) The expenditure is likely to be Rs. 350 Crores. (Approx.)

Statement

List of New Telephone exchanges proposed to be set up in Madhya Pradesh during 1994-95

1. Large exchanges:

Sl. No.	Place	Capacity	Remarks
1	Bhopal	8000	(E-10B)
2.	Indore	10000	(E-10B)
3.	Rewa	2500	(CDOT)
4.	Satna	3500	(")
5.	Guna	2000	(")
6.	Rajnandgaon	2000	(")
7.	Korba	2000	(")
8.	Burhanpur	3500	(")
9.	Bhopal	10000	(New Technology)
10.	Indore	20000	(New Technology)

11. Medium capacity exchanges

1.	Kolaras	424	(C-DOT)
2.	Lahar	424	(")
3.	Meghnagar	424	(")
4.	Sihora	1200	(")
5.	Simga	400	(")
6.	Ghatbilod	400	(")

Sl. No.	Place	Capacity	Remarks
7.	Betul	400	(")
8.	Khategaon	400	(")
9.	Biora	1200	(")
10.	Ganjbasoda	1400	(")
11.	Inowgaon	424	(")
12.	Damoh	1200	(")
13.	Dhar	1400	(")
14.	Kanker	1200	(")
15.	Morena	1200	(")
16.	Chattarpur	1000	(")
17.	Chhindwara	1000	(")
18.	Gotegaon	1000	(")
19.	Nadga	1000	(")
20.	Raisen	1000	(")
21.	Sendhwa	1000	(")
22.	Sehore	1400	(")
23.	Dhamtari	1200	(")
24.	Pipariya	1000	(")
25.	Mhow	1000	(")
26.	Rajgarh	1000	(")

III. Small Capacity Exchanges: 200 numbers of small capacity exchanges of 88 lines each are also proposed to be set up at various places of Madhya Pradesh in rural areas.

[English]

Expansion Equipment in Andhra Pradesh

2070. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Andhra Pradesh Telecom had assured the supply of "4K (Expansion) Equipment of E-10B" to expand the telephone capacity in Guntur district of Andhra Pradesh;

(b) the reasons for not supplying this equipment to Guntur District;

(c) whether the equipment earmarked for Andhra Pradesh was diverted to Himachal Telecom and Punjab Telecom Circles last year; and

(d) if so, the details with reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Yes Sir. The supply of the equipment has commenced and is likely to be completed by Sept. 94.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No. Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Cultural Delegations

2071. SHRI MANJAY LAL: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the reply given to USQ No. 3765 on April 18, 1994 and to state the progress made in regard to sending cultural delegations to Myanmar?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): There has been no further progress. A formal response from the Myanmar authorities is still awaited. On receipt of a positive response from them, Indian Council for Cultural Relations will implement the proposal received from the Embassy of India, Yangon. In addition, Embassy of India, Yangon have proposed that ICCR send a cultural troupe in February, 1995 on the occasion of India Trade Fair in Yangon, being organised by the India Trade Promotion Organisation. This is being finalised in consultation with our Mission.

Production of Processed Foods

2072. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHOUDHARY: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of fruits and vegetables that is processed out of the total production in the country, State-wise; and

(b) the efforts made by the Government to increase the production of processed foods in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) In 1993, 5.59 lakh tonnes of fruits and vegetable products other than sun-dried and fried products were commercially produced in the country utilising approximately 11.6 lakh tonnes of fruits and vegetables which is about 1.1% of the total fruits and vegetables produced in the country. The State-wise percentage distribution of the above fruits and vegetable products produced is as under:—

161	Written Answers	SRAVANA 17, 1916 (SAKA)	Written Answers	162
Andhra Pradesh	...	12.88	Uttar Pradesh	6.42
Arunachal Pradesh	...	0.02	West Bengal	4.93
Assam	...	0.05	Andaman & Nicobar	0.02
Bihar	...	0.68	Chandigarh	0.60
Goa	...	0.18	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0.56
Gujarat	...	7.66	Damana and Diu	0.02
Haryana	...	2.89	Delhi	6.66
Himachal Pradesh	...	1.33	Lakshadweep	0.01
Jammu & Kashmir	...	0.89	Pondicherry	0.01
Karnataka	...	9.02	<p>(b) The Ministry has formulated several developmental schemes for providing assistance to various organisations such as State Government Undertakings, Joint-Sector Undertakings, Co-operative sectors, Voluntary Agencies, Private Sector, etc. for setting up/upgrading of fruit and vegetable processing industries as well as for setting up of rural Food Processing-cum-Training Centres.</p> <p>Foreign Investment in Gas Pipeline Project</p> <p>2073. SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:</p> <p>(a) whether any prospects of direct foreign investment exist in the proposed gas pipeline project between Middle East countries and India;</p> <p>(b) if so, the mode of participation by such investors in the project;</p> <p>(c) by when the project is likely to be materialised; and</p>	
Kerala	...	1.46		
Madhya Pradesh	...	0.54		
Maharashtra	...	31.22		
Manipur	...	0.04		
Meghalaya	...	0.02		
Mizoram	...	0.02		
Nagaland	...	0.01		
Orissa	...	0.23		
Punjab	...	3.55		
Rajasthan	...	0.73		
Sikkim	...	0.23		
Tamil Nadu	...	6.98		
Tripura	...	0.04		

(d) whether the beneficiary States have been identified and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) (a) to (d). The investment in the pipeline from Oman is proposed to be made by the Oman Oil Company. The time schedule for the project will depend on the finalisation of the agreement on the terms and conditions. Investment for the pipeline from Iran can be tied up after the feasibility study is completed. It is too early to indicate the date of commissioning of these projects or identification of beneficiaries.

[Translation]

Fax Facility in States

2074. SHRI JANGBIR SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the locations where FAX facility has been provided and proposed to be provided, State-wise; and

(b) the amount proposed to be spent for providing this facility in the current year, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Locations where Bureau Fax facility has been provided State-Wise are given in the enclosed *Statement-I*. The locations where Bureau Fax facility is to be provided will be decided by Heads of Circles based on traffic potential and demand. The tentative allotment of equipment during current year for provision of Bureau Fax facility in each Telecom Circle is given in *Statement-II*.

(b) The amount proposed to be spent in various Telecom Circles in providing Bureau Fax facility during current year is also indicated in the above mentioned *Statement-II*

State Wise List of Locations Where Fax Service Has Been Provided

Sl. No.	State	Fax Centre
1.	Andaman U.T.	Port Blair
2.	Andhra Pradesh	Adilabad
		Adoni
		Amalapuram
		Anakapalle
		Ananthapur
		Bhanvaram DTO

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>State</i>	<i>Fax Centre</i>
		Bobbili
		Chakaluripeta
		Chirala DTO
		Chittoor
		Cuddippah
		Eluru
		Eluru Bazar, TC
		Gudivada DTO
		Guntakal
		Guntur
		Guntur Bus Stand TC
		Hindupur
		Hyderabad-Airport TC
		Hyderabad-CTO
		Hyderabad-Khairatabad
		Kakinada DTO.
		Kakinada Bazar TC
		Kakinada-Ramanayyapet
		Karim Nagar
		Kavali DTO
		Khammam
		Kumool

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>State</i>	<i>Fax Centre</i>
		Machilipatnam
		Maabohnagar
		Nalgonda
		Nandyal DTO
		Nellore
		Nidubrolu
		Nizamabad
		Nuzhveedu DTO
		Ongole TC
		Palakole DTO
		Proddatur DTO
		Rajahmundry
		Sangareddy
		Secunderabad
		Srikakulam
		Tadepalligudem
		Tanuku DTO
		Tenali
		Tirumala ZTO
		Tirupati
		Vijayawada
		Vijayawada-Buckinghampet

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>State</i>	<i>Fax Centre</i>
		Vijayawada-Labbipeta
		Visakhapatnam
		Visakhapatnam-Harbour TC
		Vizianagaram
		Waraargal
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	Itanagar
4.	Assam	Agartala
		Biswanath Chariali
		Guwahati
		Guwahati Rly Stn TC
		Silchar
5.	Bihar	Darbhanga
		Siwan
		Araria
		Arrah
		Aurangabad (Bihar)
		B.Deoghar
		Banka
		Begusarai
		Bhabhua DTO
		Bhagaipur

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>State</i>	<i>Fax Centre</i>
		Bihar Sharif
		Bokaro
		Buxar DTO
		Buxar TO
		Chaibasa
		Chas TC
		Dalton Ganj
		Darbanga
		Dhan Bad
		Dhanbad Bus Stop TC
		Dhurwa
		Dumka
		Forbesganj
		GM Telco JSRTC
		Gaya
		Giridih
		Godda
		Gopalganj DTO
		Hazaribagh
		Hazipur
		Jahanabad

Sl. No.	State	Fax Centre
		Jamshedpur
		Jamshedpur TC Telco
		Jamui
		Jharia
		Jontara TC
		Katihar
		Khagaria
		Kishanganj DTO
		Lakhisarai TC
		Lehriasarai
		Madhepura
		Madhubani
		Munger
		Muzaffarpur
		Nawada
		PT-Bankipur DTO
		Patliputra
		Patna C. T. O.
		Patna City
		Pondra TC
		Purnea
		Ranchi- Kanke TC

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>State</i>	<i>Fax Centre</i>
		Ranchi Aerodrome TC
		Ranchi C.T.O.
		Ranchi Tatisilaway TC
		Ranchi RMCH TC
		Rani Rlyja TC
		Raxaul
		Saharsa
		Sahebganj DTO
		Sasaram
		Sasoiam
		Sitamarhi
		Supaul DTO
6.	Delhi	Delhi Azadpur
		Delhi Chandini Chowk
		Delhi Daryaganj
		Delhi Kashmiri Gate
		Delhi Krishana Nagar
		Delhi Transport Centre
		New Delhi C.T.O.
		New Delhi Chankyapuri
		New Delhi I.G.I. Airport

Sl. No.	State	Fax Centre
TO		New Delhi International
		New Delhi Lodi Road
		New Delhi Nehru Place
		New Delhi Palam Airport
		New Delhi Parliament House
		New Delhi Prasad Nagar
		New Delhi Rajouri Garden
		New Delhi Shastri Bhavan
		New Delhi-AIIMS-T.C.
		New Delhi-Janakpuri
		New Delhi-Pragati Maidan
7	Goa	Margao
		Panaji (Goa)
8.	Gujarat	Ahmedabad
		Ahmedabad-Naroda
		Ahmedabad Navrangpura
		Ahmedabad Railwaypura
		Amreli
		Anand
		Baroda
		Baroda Elora Park
		Baroda Fatehganj

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>State</i>	<i>Fax Centre</i>
		Bharuch DTO
		Bhavnagar
		Bhuj
		Bilimora
		Gandhidham
		Gandhinagar
		Godhra DTO
		Halol
		Himat Nagar
		Jamnagar
		Junagadh
		Mehesana
		Nadiad
		Nadiad DTO
		Navsari
		Palanpur
		Porbandar
		Rajkot
		Surat
		Surat Nanpura
		Surendra Nagar

Sl. No.	State	Fax Centre
		Unjha
		Valsad (Bulsar)
		Vepi
		Veraval
		Ahmedabad Maninagar
		Ahmedabad Naranpura
		Ahmedabad Shahibag
		Ahmedabad Vasna
		TC Anleshwar
		TC Kapdwanj
		TC Nadiad NH
8.	Haryana	Ambala
		Faridabad
		Gurgaon
		Hissar
		Karnal
		Kurukshetra
		Panipat
		Rohtak
		Sonepat
9.	Himachal Pradesh	Bilaspur TO
		Chamba

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>State</i>	<i>Fax Centre</i>
		Dharmashala
		Hamirpur (H.P.)
		Kullu
		Mandli
		Manadi
		Nahan
		Parwanoo
		Shimla
		Shimla Telecom Centre
		Solan
		Una DTO
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	Jammu Tawi
		Jammu-Gandhinagar
		Kathua
		Srinagar
		Udhampur
11.	Karnataka	Bagalkot
		Bangalore
		Bangalore-Subhash Nagar
		Bangalore City DTO
		Bangalore-I.I. Science
		Bangalore-Shanti Nagar

Sl. No.	State	Fax Centre
		Bangalore-Basaoanagudi
		Bangalore-Rajajinagar
		Bangalore-Ulsoor
		Belgaum
		Bellary
		Bhadravati
		Bidar
		Bijapur
		Chikmagalur
		Chitradugga
		Davangere
		Dharwad
		Gadag
		Gulbarg Patel Chowk
		Gulbarga
		Hassan
		Haveri
		Hospet
		Hubli
		Karwar
		Kolar
		Kundapura

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>State</i>	<i>Fax Centre</i>
		Madikeri
		Mandya
		Mangalore C.T.O.
		Mangalore Hampankatta
		Manipal
		Mysore
		Puttur (DK)
		Raichur
		Ranebennur DTO
		Robersnpet
		Shimoga
		Sirsi DTO
		Tiptur
		Tumkur
		Udupi
		Udupi Telecom Centre
12.	Kerala	Adoor
		Alleppey
		Alwaye
		Androth
		Angamally TC
		Attingal TC

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>State</i>	<i>Fax Centre</i>
		Ayarakunnam
		Ayur
		Badagara
		Balaramapuram
		Balusseri
		Cananganacherry TC
		Calicut
		Calicut-I.G. Road
		Calicut-S.M. Street
		Calicut Kalai
		Cannanore
		Chalakudy TC
		Chavakkad
		Chengannur TC
		Cochin (Ernakulam)
		Cochin-Mattanchery
		Cochin-North Palarivattam
		Cochin-Sanmugham Road
		Cochin-Vytilla
		Cochin-Wellington Island DTO
		Cochin Thoppumpady
		Cochin-Thevara

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>State</i>	<i>Fax Centre</i>
		Ettumanoor
		Guruvayoor TC
		Haripad T.C
		Irinjalakuda
		Kalady
		Kalampassery TC
		Kalpeta
		Kanhangad
		Kanjirapally
		Karukachal
		Kasargode
		Kavarathy
		Kayamkulam DTO
		Kodagallur T.C. (Cramganore)
		Kolencherry T.C.
		Koothattukulam
		Kothamangalam
		Kottakkal
		Kottarakara
		Kottaya
		Kottiyam (qn) T.C.
		Kovalam TC

Sl. No.	State	Fax Centre
		Kozhencherry TC
		Kumbanad T.C
		Kundara
		Kunnamkulam
		Mahe TC
		Malappuram
		Mallappally
		Mananthavadi
		Manjeri T.C
		Mannar (Qn)
		Mattanur
		Mavelikkara
		Minicoy
		Muyathupuzha
		Nedumangad
		Ottapalam
		Palai DTO
		Paighat (Palakkad)
		Pampady T.C
		Pandalam
		Paravur South
		Paripally

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>State</i>	<i>Fax Centre</i>
		Parur (North) TC
		Pattanamthitta
		Payyanur
		Perumbavoor TC
		Piraman
		Punalur
		Puthur (QN)
		Quilandi T.C
		Quillon
		Quilon Bazar
		Ranni
		Sasthaman Galam TC
		Shertally TC
		Tali Paramba
		Tellicherry
		Thedupuzha
		Tiruchur
		Tirur
		Tiruvalla
		Tripunithura TC
		Trivandrum
		Trivandrum Chalai

Sl. No.	State	Fax Centre
		Trivandrum Medical College TC
		Trivandrum Pappanamcod
		Trivandrum Plamoode
		Trivandrum Perurkada
		Trivandrum Sasthamangalam
		Trivandrum Thirumala
		Trivandrum Ulloor
		Trivandrum- Pattam TO
		Vadakancherry T.C
13.	Madhya Pradesh	Itarsi DTO
		TT Nagar Bhopal
		Bhopal-Govindpura
		Bhopal Arera Colony
		Bhopal Bairaghar DTO
		Bhopal-City
		Bhopal-Mmahanana Pratap Nagar
		Bhopal-Vallabh Bhavan
		Bilaspur
		Chhindwara DTO
		Dewas

Sl. No.	State	Fax Centre
		Durg
		Gwalior
		Hoshangabad
		Indore
		Jabalpur C.T.O.
		Jabalpur-Lordsganj
		Jagdal Pur
		Khandwa
		Mandsaur
		Neemuch
		Raipur
		Ratlam
		Rewa
		Sagar (M.P.)
		Satna
		Seoni
		Ujjain
		Vidisha
		Bhilai
14.	Maharashtra	Kalyan TO
		Akluj TO
		Alibagh

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>State</i>	<i>Fax Centre</i>
		Aurangabad Chhathana Ind. Area
		Balives Solapur TC
		Bhandara Bombay Wagle Estate TC
		Bombay-Andheri
		Bombay-Byculla
		Bombay-GPO DTO
		Bombay-Girgaum
		Bombay-Goregaon
		Bombay-JNPT-Navsheva
		Bombay-Khar
		Bombay-Matunga
		Bombay-Panvel
		Bombay--Santacruz
		Buldana DTO
		By- Bassior Road TO
		Chandrapur
		DTO Pandharpur
		Kamptee (Nagpur)
		Karad
		Kolhapur City TO
		Miraj

Sl. No:

State

Fax Centre

Nagpur City

Nagpur Fule Market

Nasik Road

Parbhani

Pune City DTO

Pune-Kirkee

Tuljapur TO

Ulhasnagar

Vashi (Bombay)

Wmravati

Nasik Road

Ahmed Nagar

Akola

Aurangabad

Barsi

Bhusaval DTO

Bombay-C.T.O.

Bombay-Chembur

Bombay-Cumbala Hill

Bombay-Dadar

Bombay-Kalvadevi

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>State</i>	<i>Fax Centre</i>
		Bombay-Malad
		Bombay-Santacruz
		Bombay-Chinchbunder
		Dhule
		Gondia
		Jalgaon
		Jalna
		Kolhapur
		Latur
		Nagpur
		Nanded
		Nasik
		Osmanabad
		Pune
		Pune-Pimpri
		Pune Chinchwad
		Ratnagiri
		Sangali
		Satara
		Shri Rampur
		Solapur
		Thane

Sl. No.	State	Fax Centre
		Wardhaganj TC
		Yeot Mal
14.	Manipur	Imphal
15.	Meghalaya	Shillong
16.	Mizoram	Aizwal
17.	Nagaland	Dimapur
		Kohima
18.	Orissa	Balangir
		Balasore
		Baripada
		Berhampur (Ganjam)
		Bhavanipatna
		Bhubaneswar
		Chhatrapur
		Cuttack
		Dhenkanal
		Jeypore (Koraput)
		Jharsuguda
		Keojhar
		Koraput
		Koraput T.C.
		Phulbani

Sl. No.	State	Fax Centre
		Puri
		Rourkela
		Sambalpur
		Sundergarh
19.	Pondicherry U.T	Pondicherry
20.	Punjab	Amritsar C.T.O.
		Amritsar Golden Temple
		Bhatinda
		Chandigarh
		Chandigarh High Court T.C.
		Chandigarh Press Club TC.
		Hoshiarpur
		Jalandhar
		Ludhiana C.T.O.
		Ludhiana Millar Ganj
		Moga
		Pathankot
		Patiala
21.	Rajasthan	Ajmer
		Alwar
		Beawar
		Bharatpur

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>State</i>	<i>Fax Centre</i>
		Bhilwara DTO
		Bhilwara TC
		Bikaner
		Churu DTO
		DTO Barmer
		DTO Jaisalmer
		Jaipur-High Court TC
		Jaipur Adarsh Nagar
		Jaipur C.T.O.
		Jaipur-Sanghaneri Gate T.C.
		Jalore
		Jhunjhunu
		Jodhpur
		Jodhpur-Paota
		Kota
		Kotputli DTO
		Nagaur (Raj)
		Pali Marwar
		Sawai Madhopur
		Sikar
		Sirohi
		Sri Ganga Nagar

Sl. No.	State	Fax Centre
		Sumerpur
		Udaipur
		Udaipur TC
		Banswara
22.	Sikkim	Gangtok
23.	Tamilnadu	Arontangi
		Bhavani
		Chengalput 603601 DTO
		Chidambaram TO
		Coimbatore-C.T.O.
		Coimbatore-Chamber of Commerce
		Coimbatore-Gandhi Puram Bus Stand
		Coimbatore-RS Puram DTO
		Coonoor
		Cuddalore
		Dharma Puri
		Dindigul TC
		Dindigul
		Erode
		GM Telecom Trichy 620001
		Gobichettipalayam

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>State</i>	<i>Fax Centre</i>
		Gobichettipalayam TO
		Gudiyattam TO
		Hosur
		Kancheepuram DTO
		Kanyaunmai DTO
		Karaikudi
		Karur
		Kovil Patti
		Krishnagiri DTO
		Kulithalai TO
		Kumbakonam
		Kuzhiturai
		MS-Vadapalani
		Madras Greams Road
		Madras-Aoyar
		Madras-Anna Nagar
		Madras-Guindy
		Madras - Rouapettah
		Madras - Tambaram
		Madras-Washermanpet
		Madras Anna Road
		Madras Anna University TC

Sl. No.	State	Fax Centre
		Madras C.T.P.
		Madras Central Stn ZTO
		Madras I.I.T. Telecom Centre
		Madras Kilpauk
		Madras Kolathur TC
		Madras Mambalam
		Madras Mylapore
		Madras Padi TC
		Madras Pallavaram
		Madras Park Town
		Madras Royapettah ZTO
		Madras Sowcarpet ZTO
		Madras St. Thomas Mount
		Madras Vadapalani ZTO
		Madras-Avadi DTO
		Madras ICF Coloney DTO
		Madras-Agaiaam ZTO
		Madras-Agaram ZTO
		Madras-Perambur DTO
		Madurai
		Madurai-Gandai Nagar
		Madurai-Mahal

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>State</i>	<i>Fax Centre</i>
		Madurai-Palan Ganatham
		Madurai-Tirunagar TC
		Madurai-Town
		Manaparai TO
		Mannargudiam
		Mayiladuthurai DTO
		Mettupalayam
		Musiri TC
		Nagapattinam
		Nagercoil
		Namakkal
		Nayveli T.O
		Palani
		Palayankottai TO
		Paramakkudi
		Pollachi
		Pudhukattai
		Raja Palayam
		Rama Natha Puram
		Ranipet To
		STO Annanagar West
		STO Egmore MS

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>State</i>	<i>Fax Centre</i>
		STO Madras EPZ
		STO Madras EPZ DTO
		STO Nanganallu DTO
		Salem
		Sattur TO
		Sipcot Ranipet TC
		Sirkali TC
		Sivaganga
		Sivakasi
		T Nagar South (MS)
		TDM Office Vellore TC
		TR HA. P. P.
		Tenkasi
		Tennur TC
		Thanjavur
		Thanjavur Medical College
		Theni
		Tiruchandur
		Tiruchirappalli-Boiler Project
		Tiruchirappalli
		Tiruchirappalli-Srirangam
		Tiruchirappalli - Teppakulam

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>State</i>	<i>Fax Centre</i>
		Tirughengode
		Tirunelveli
		Tirunelveli DTO
		Tirupur
		Tiruvannamalai TO
		Tiruvarur TO
		Trichy KK Nagar
		Trichy Ordnance Factory
		Trichy Subramaniapuram ZTO
		Trichy-Bhopal Heber College TC
		Trichy-Jamalmomad College 6200
		Trichy-Palaparai 620001
		Turaiyur TC
		Tuticorin
		Udagamandalam (Ooty)
		Udumalpet
		Vellore (North Arcot)
		Villupuram
		Virudhunagar
		Visakaapatnam University

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>State</i>	<i>Fax Centre</i>
24.	Uttar Pradesh	Aligarh Allahabad Allahabad Naini Almora Ayodhya Azamgarh Ballia Barabanki Baraut Basti Bhadohi Bhariah Bijnor Bijpur Dehradun Deoria Etawah Faizabad Ferozepur Firozabad Ghaziabad Ghazipur

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>State</i>	<i>Fax Centre</i>
		Gopeshwar DTO
		Gorakhpur
		Hamirpur (U.P.)
		Hathras
		Jaunpur
		Jhansi
		Kanpur-Emp. Exge. D.T.O.
		Kanpur-Udyognagar Tel Cent
		Kanpur C.T.O.
		Kanpur IIT
		Lalit Pur
		Lucknow
		Mainpuri
		Mau
		Meerut
		Mirzapur
		Modi Nagar
		Moradabad
		Muzaffamagar
		Nainital
		Orai
		Pithoragarh

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>State</i>	<i>Fax Centre</i>
		Pratapgarh
		Renukoot
		Sitanpur
		Unnao
		Uttar-Kashi
		Varanasi C.T.O.
		Varanasi City
		Agra
		Banda
		Bareilly
		Bulandshahr
		Fatehpur
		Hardwar
		Mathura
		Pauni-Garwal
		Rae Bareilly
		Rampur
		Roorkee
		Saharanpur
26.	West Bengal	Asansol
		Asansol R.S TC
		Balurghat TO

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>State</i>	<i>Fax Centre</i>
		Barasat
		Barrack Pore DTO
		Burdwan
		Calcutta-Bara Bazar
		Calcutta-C.T.O
		Calcutta - ...
		Calcutta - Park Street
		Calcutta - Rashnihar Avenue
		Calcutta Bidan Nagar DTO
		Calcutta Shyam Bazar
		Calcutta-Alipore Street DTO
		Calcutta-M.G. Road
		Coochbehar
		Darjeeling DTO
		Durgapur
		Durgapur Steel
		Howrah DTO
		Howrah- Rly Station-T.C.
		Kharagpur
		Krishnagar DTO
		Malda
		Purulia
		Siliguri
		Rani Ganj

Statement - II

<i>Name of Circle</i>	<i>No. of locations where Bureau Fax facility is proposed to be proposed to be provided during current year</i>	<i>Amount proposed to be spent (Rs. in Lakhs)</i>
Andhra Pradesh	40	20
Assam	8	4
Delhi	14	7
Gujarat		11 5.5
Himachal Pradesh	6	3
Haryana	6	3
J & K	2	1
Kerala	25	12.5
Madhya Pradesh	100	50
Maharashtra	31	15.5
Punjab	26	13
Rajasthan	37	18.5
Tamil Nadu	45	22.5
Uttar Pradesh	15	7.5
West Bengal	37	18.5

Problems of Developing Countries

developing countries and to improve South-South and North-South relations?

2075. SHRIBHOGENDRAJHA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state the efforts being made by the Government through Non-Aligned Movement to resolve the problems of the

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): Government of India has been actively participating in

negotiations within the Non-Aligned Movement to resolve the problems of the developing countries and to enhance South-South Cooperation and North-South relations. The tenth summit of the Non-Aligned Movement held in Jakarta in 1992 had discussed in depth the issues for a North-South Dialogue. The heads of State/Government of Non-Aligned countries had reconfirmed their long-standing conviction that only a free, open, rule-based and non-discriminatory international trading system can provide an effective and viable basis for the promotion of the equitable development and economic prosperity. The summit also discussed the issues of development finance, and debt and monetary issues. It called for a wide range of actions on a broad front, to revitalise the growth and development of developing countries and, in particular, the stimulation of new and additional financial flows for development through increased commitment on part of the developed countries. Non-aligned countries have identified international financial mechanisms, external debt, international trade and commodities, science and technology, and environment and development, as areas of common interest on which rational and productive negotiations, in the context of North-South Cooperation, can be conducted. India's contribution to these decisions was significant. Addressing the Summit, Prime Minister, Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao, highlighted the need for a non-confrontationist yet decisive North-South dialogue. The Non-Aligned Summit also reiterated that South-South Cooperation is a vital instrument for accelerating the development of developing countries and a key element in efforts to restructure international economic relations on a more just and equitable basis. Non-aligned countries are committed to further strengthening South-South cooperation taking advantage of the comparative advantages available within the South in

particular, in facing the problems of external debt, economic development and population. They also seek to further strengthen the various ongoing cooperation measures in the fields of science and technology, economic cooperation and regional trade. Measures have also been taken for the harmonization of the Action Programmes of NAM and Group of 77 for enhancing South-South Cooperation. These decision on North-South relations have also been reaffirmed at the meeting of the NAM Standing Ministerial Committee held in Bali, Indonesia from May 10-13, 1993 and at the XI Ministerial Conference of Non-Aligned Countries held in Cairo from May 31-June 3, 1994.

[English]

Women in FPI.

2076. SHRI ANNA JOSHI: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to provide any special assistance to women entrepreneurs in the setting up food processing units;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) to (c). The Ministry is operating a scheme for assisting State Government organisations, cooperatives, autonomous bodies, voluntary organisations etc. for setting up of Food Processing and Training Centres (FPTCs) in rural areas for providing training to the potential entrepreneurs including women in the techniques of production and marketing of food products. These centres would make

special efforts for involving women and unemployed youth as trainees and instil confidence in them to set up and run small commercial ventures. The Government also has a scheme for providing financial assistance to women entrepreneurs under Mahila Udyog Nidhi Scheme operated by / Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI).

[Translation]

Production of Oil And Natural Gas

2077. SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the total production of Oil and Natural Gas during the last three years in the country, sector-wise;

(b) the percentage of the Gas flared out of the total produce and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to make use of it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) The production of crude oil and natural gas during the last three years was as under:—

	Oil (MMT)	Gas (MM3)
1991-92	30.35	18597
1992-93	26.95	18060
1993-94	27.02	18333

(b) During the year 1993-94, the average flaring was about 10% of the production. The reasons for gas flaring include technical requirements/operational safety; lack of adequate compression and transportation facilities; lack of consumers and less offtake by the existing customers, etc.

(c) The steps taken to reduce gas flaring include installation of additional gas handling, compression and transportation facilities; creation of additional gas demand/ market; conservation of gas through underground storage of surplus gas produced, to the extent possible.

[English]

Allocation of Fund from CRF

2078. SHRI JAGMEET SINGH BRAR: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the amount allocated to Punjab out of Central Road Fund during the last three years, year-wise; and

(b) the amount sanctioned for various projects in the State and the actual amount released during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE

MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) The amount allocated to Punjab out of Central Road Fund during the last three years, year-wise is as under:

Year	Amount (Rs. in lak)
1991-92	-
1992-93	-
1993-94	60.00

(b) : During the Eighth Five Year Plan, three schemes amounting to Rs. 549.27 lakh have been approved so far. Funds under the Central Road Fund are allocated State-wise and not scheme-wise.

LPG Agencies in Gujarat

2079. DR. AMRITLAL KALIDAS PATEL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of LPG agencies in Gujarat that have been closed during the last three years;

(b) the reasons therefor;

(c) how many of them have been granted permission to start operation again; and

(d) the details of the agencies against which inquiry has not been completed yet?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) to (d). Four LPG distributorships have been closed in Gujarat during the last three years for violation of

Marketing Discipline Guidelines or cancellation of retail selling licences by the District Authorities. Out of them, inquiries against two are underway and one LPG distributorship has been restored.

LPG Agencies in Himachal Pradesh

2080. PROF. PREM DHUMA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any proposal/request from the Himachal Pradesh Government for opening up of more L.P.G. Agencies in the State; and

(b) if so, the number of gas agencies proposed to be allotted to Himachal Pradesh during 1994-95?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) LPG Marketing Plan for 1994-95 has not been finalised.

Rates of Switching System

2081. SHRI SUDARSAN RAYCHAUDHURI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received complaints from technicians that failure rates of switching systems offered by multinationals like Siemens etc. are much higher than those developed by C-DOT; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI

SUKH RAM): (a) No Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

[Translation]

Telephone Connections in Delhi

2082. SHRI VISHWANATH SHASTRI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons registered for telephone connections in Delhi under Non-OYT category during 1993;

(b) the number of persons out of them provided with telephone connections so far; and

(c) the time by which the remaining persons are likely to be provided with telephone connections?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) Sir, the total number of persons registered for telephone connections in Delhi under N-OYT General category during the year 1993 (Jan. 93 to Dec. 93) is 38,100.

(b) The total number of persons out of them who have been provided telephone connections is 1960.

(c) The remaining persons are likely to be provided telephone connections by the end 1995 subject to timely availability of equipment, material & financial resources.

Oil Refinery in U.P.

2083. DR. SAKSHIJI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be

pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a new oil refinery in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the refinery is likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

[English]

Delegations Sent Abroad

2084. DR. SAKSHIJI : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of delegations sent abroad by his Ministry during each of the last three years:

(b) the countries visited by these delegations;

(c) the expenditure incurred on each of these delegations; and

(d) the broad results achieved by these visits?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA) : (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

Erratic Delineation of International Borders of India

2085. DR. LAXMINARAYAN
PANDEYA:
SHRI ATAL BIHARI
VAJPAYEE:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of cases of erratic delineation of international borders of India by foreign publications which came to the notice of the Government, during the last three years; and

(b) the number of cases in which action has been taken and the results achieved by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA) : (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Petrol Pump/LPG Agency at Rosera, Bihar

2086. SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state ;

(a) whether in Rosera sub divisional headquarter of Samstipur Distt. of Bihar neither a petrol pump nor gas agency exist; and

(b) if so, the steps the Government propose to take to set up a petrol/diesel pump and a gas agency in the area?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE

MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) : (a) At present, there is only a packed point HSD dealer, and no LPG distributor, operating at Rosera.

(b) The Industry, is not in a position to appoint a regular RO dealer owing to the stay obtained by the existing packed point dealer.

LPG distributorships are opened in a phased manner in towns having a population of 20, 000 and above subject to product availability and the location offering adequate potential to sustain a viable distributorship. The location Rosera will be included in the future marketing plan if these conditions are met.

[English]

Subways in Gujarat

2087. SHRIMATI BHAVNA CHIKHALIA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the places on National Highways in Saurashtra-Kutch region of Gujarat where subways are proposed to be constructed; and

(b) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) Nil.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Container Handling Facilities

2088. DR. P. R. GANGWAR : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of containers in different major ports of the country, port-wise;

(b) whether there is any proposal to provide container handling facilities at some more ports; and

(c) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken in this regard?

MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) A total number of 10.52 lakh TEUs were handled in containers at Major Ports during 1993-94. The port-wise break-up is given in enclosed statement.

(b) No, Sir.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE

(c) Does not arise.

Statement

Details of the Containers handled at Major Ports during 1993-94

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of the Port</i>	<i>Containers handled (in lakh TEUs)</i>
01.	Culcutta	0.96
02.	Haldia	0.06
03.	Paradip	-
04.	Visakhapatnam	0.09
05.	Madras	1.62
06.	Tuticorin	0.48
07.	Cochin	0.71
08.	New Mangalore	0.02
09.	Mormugao	0.02
10.	Jawaharlal Nehru	1.77
11.	Bombay	4.28
12.	Kandla	0.51
Total		10.52

Petrol Pumps in Madhya Pradesh

2089. SHRI MANKU RAM SODI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of petrol pumps opened in Bastar district of Madhya Pradesh;

(b) the number of petrol pumps registered in the name of SCs/STs and others in the district; and

(c) the reasons for not providing requisite number of petrol pumps to SCs/STs and tribals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) to (c). There are 16 petrol/diesel retail outlets in Bastar District of Madhya Pradesh - 3 dealerships pertaining to 'ST' category and 13 dealerships pertaining to 'Open' category. The dealership under 'Open' Category were commissioned before the introduction of 25% reservation for SC/ST on Industry basis. Requisite reservation is being provided in all new selections.

[English]

Desiltation of Haldia Port

2090. DR. ASIM BALA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for desiltation of Haldia Port;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government of West Bengal has sent any proposal in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (d). This Ministry has not received any specific proposal on the desiltation of Haldia Port.

Import of Petroleum Products and Natural Gas

2091. SHRI HARIN PATHAK: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the terms and conditions under which permission is given for importing petroleum products and natural gas;

(b) whether the Government provide any financial assistance to the companies for import of petroleum and natural gas; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) All decanalised petroleum products can be imported under the Import - Export Policy in force.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Post Offices in Gujarat

2092. SHRI ARVIND TRIVEDI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of villages in Gujarat without Post Offices as on date, district-wise;

(b) the number of post offices category-wise functioning as on date in the State, district-wise;

SUKHRAM): (a) Number of villages in Gujarat district-wise without Post Offices is given in the enclosed statement-I

(c) whether the Government propose to open more new Post Offices in the state in the near future; and

(b) Number of post offices category-wise functioning as on date is given in the enclosed statement-II

(d) if so, the locations thereof, category-wise?

(c) Yes, Sir.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI

(D) 4 E.D. Branch Post Offices and 10 Departmental Sub Post Offices are proposed to be opened during 1994-95.

Statement - I

The Number of villages in Gujarat without post offices district-wise.

<i>Sl.No</i>	<i>Name of district</i>	<i>No. of villages without postoffices.</i>
1.	Ahmedabad	244
2.	Gandhinagar	16
3.	Mehsana	855
4.	Banaskantha	941
5.	Sabarkantha	603
6.	Bharuch	654
7.	Dang	254
8.	Kheda	392
9.	Panchmahals	1389
10.	Surat	738
11.	Vadodara	1069
12.	Valsad	295

<i>Sl.No</i>	<i>Name of district</i>	<i>No. of villages without postoffices.</i>
13.	Amreli	309
14.	Bhavnagar	468
15.	Jamnagar	365
16.	Junagarh	573
17.	Kachchh-Bhuj	415
18.	Rajkot	463
19.	Surendranagar	339
Total		= 10383

STATEMENT-II

NUMBER OF POST OFFICES IN GUJARAT AS ON DATE, CATEGORY-WISE AND DISTRICT WISE.

Sl. No.	Name of District	Ho*	DSC**	EDBO***	EDBO****	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Ahmadabad	4	159	3	399	565
2.	Gandhinagar	1	31	1	47	80
3.	Mehasana	5	89	3	499	602
4.	Banaskantha	2	36	1	410	449
5.	Sabarkantha	2	52	1	509	564
6.	Bharuch	1	65	4	428	498
7.	Dang	-	5	-	51	56
8.	Kheda	4	132	8	478	622
9.	Panchmahals	2	44	4	484	534
10.	Surat	2	115	1	517	635

Sl. No.	Name of District	Ho*	DSO**	EDBO***	EDBO****	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
11.	Vadodara	3	97	7	566	673
12.	Valsad	1	38	3	283	325
13.	Amreli	1	38	3	283	325
14.	Bhavnagar	2	65	.	403	470
15.	Jamnagar	2	64	-	324	390
16.	Junagadh	3	87	1	435	504
17.	Kachchh-Bhuj	2	65	2	435	504
18.	Rajkot	2	87	1	415	505
19.	Surendranagar	1	41	-	293	335
		42	1352	47	7456	8897

[English]

the following countries during 1993 and 1994:

Cauvery Basin Refinery

1993

2093. SHRI R. DHANUSKODI
ATHITHAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM
AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(i) April 7-11 - Thailand and Bangladesh

(ii) May 23-26 - Uzbekistan and
Kazakhstan

(a) the steps taken to develop the
Cauvery basin Refinery;

(iii) June 14-16 - Oman

(b) whether the Madras Refinery has
submitted any proposal to develop
Nagaptnam port to facilitate the crude
transport from port; and

(iv) August 21-22 - Bhutan

(v) September 6-11 - China and Republic
of Korea

(c) if so, the details thereof?

(vi) September 20-22 - Iran

1994

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND
NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR
SHARMA) (a) The crude distillation unit at
Cauvery basin which has a capacity of 0.5
NMTPA commenced operations in
November 1993.

(i) January 31 - February 6 -
Switzerland and
Germany

(b) No Sir.

(ii) March 13-17 - United Kingdom

(c) Does not arise.

(iii) May 14-21 - United States of
America

[Translation]

(iv) June 29-July 2 - Russian
Federation

PM's Visit to Foreign Countries

2094. SHRI RAJVEER SINGH: Will
the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be
pleased to state:

(b) The information, visit-wise, is as
under:

(a) the countries visited by the Prime
Minister during 1993 and 1994; and

THAILAND

(b) the outcome of each of the visit?

The visit was in the bilateral context,
as a result of which there has been a better
understanding of each other's perceptions
and concerns.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI
R.L. BHATIA): (a) The Prime Minister visited

BANGLADESH

The visit to Bangladesh was to attend

the Seventh SAARC Summit. During their discussions, the Prime Minister and the Prime Minister of Bangladesh discussed bilateral issues, including the sharing of river waters, demarcation of India-Bangladesh land boundary and maritime boundary, transit facilities, economic cooperation and SAARC related matters.

UZBEKISTAN AND KAZAKHSTAN

The Prime Minister had wide-ranging discussions with the leaders of Uzbekistan on bilateral, regional and global issues. With the Kazakh leadership also, the Prime Minister had extensive discussions on matters of mutual interest. During the visit, five agreements were signed with Uzbekistan and two with Kazakhstan. The Prime Minister's visit to these two countries resulted in a clearer understanding of the priorities and concerns on both sides. This refers in particular to a greater appreciation in both Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan of the unique features of our secular political structure and our priority in terms of domestic economic reforms. They also served to sensitize the Government concern of the importance we attach to the Kashmir question, on which we have obtained the support and understanding of both the countries. In turn, we have underlined our support for the secular and moderate policies being followed by the leaders of these two countries.

OMAN

The visit led to consolidation of our traditional ties of friendship and can be termed as a pace setter in developing our special relations with the Sultanate of Oman. The two countries signed an agreement on Economic, Trade and Technical Cooperation.

BHUTAN

The visit contributed to the

strengthening of traditionally close and friendly relations between the two countries.

CHINA

The Prime Minister's visit was part of high-level exchanges between the two countries and contributed in a significant measure to further deepening and broadening of our bilateral relations with China. Four agreements were also signed during the visit.

REPUBLIC OF KOREA

The Prime Minister's visit and his talks with the leaders of Republic of Korea formed a good political basis for expanded India-Republic of Korea relations and the mutual recognition of the benefits of regular political consultations. Three agreements were also signed during the visit.

IRAN

The Prime Minister and the Iranian leadership carried out an indepth review of Indo-Iran relations and identified the priority areas for further strengthening the bilateral economic cooperation. The visit, in addition to strengthening Indo-Iran bilateral relations, has also contributed to the evolution of a closer understanding on international and regional issues of mutual concern. Two MOUs were also signed during the visit.

SWITZERLAND

The Prime Minister's visit to Switzerland was to attend the World Economic Forum Meeting in Davos. The Prime Minister addressed a session on India as well as the plenary session of the Annual Meeting. He also took the opportunity to brief those gathered at Davos of the progress of India's economic reform and programmes, India's

achievements on the economic front and our plans for the future.

GERMANY

Prime Minister's talks with the German leadership resulted in enhancing mutual understanding of each other's perceptions and concerns. They also affirmed the commitment of both countries to further strengthen bilateral cooperation in various fields.

UNITED KINGDOM

The Prime Minister's talks with the leaders of United Kingdom covered bilateral economic relations, the situation in Bosnia, Indo-Pak relations and the situation in Jammu and Kashmir. The two sides noted with satisfaction the growth of bilateral trade and investment. The United Kingdom Government reaffirmed its support for a resolution of the Kashmir issue through bilateral dialogue between India and Pakistan under the Simla Agreement. A bilateral Investment Protection Agreement was signed during the visit.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

A wide range of issues of common concern, including those relating to national security, bilateral relations and international issues of mutual interest were discussed. Both sides agreed to ensure that existing differences did not overshadow the potential for greater cooperation. It was decided to expand the pace and scope of High-level exchanges to seek ways to extend cooperation at the UN and to cooperate in the search for solution to global challenges. Two MOUs signed during the visit.

RUSSIAN FEDERATION

The Prime Minister's visit to Moscow

was a reaffirmation of the importance, which both countries attach to their relations. There were a number of agreements signed. These agreements and the decisions taken during Prime Minister's visit will set the stage for further intensification and strengthening of bilateral relations.

Decline in Petrol Price

2095. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH:
SHRI TEJ NARAYAN SINGH:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the price of petrol and cooking gas were increased during January/February, 1994 despite the constant decrease in the prices of petrol in the international market; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) and (b). Price of LPG (Domestic) was increased effective 12.1.94 and that of MS on 2.2.94. The price changes for petroleum products depend not only on international price of crude and petroleum products but also on other factors like trends in domestic product, its costs, volume of imports/exchange fluctuations etc.

[English]

Funds for Kerala

2096. PROF. SAVITHRI LAKSHMANAN:
SHRI V.S. VIJAYA RAGHAVAN:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any representation from Telecommunications Department of Kerala seeking more funds for its developmental activities during 1994-95;

(b) if so, the action taken by the Government in this regard; and

(c) if no the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) and (c). A sum of Rs. 227.84 crores has been allotted to Kerala Circle in the 1994-95 budget for the circle's developmental activities. This amount has been considered adequate keeping in view the likely position of equipment supply, physical targets, cost of various items and other relevant yardsticks.

Oil Fields to Foreign Companies

2097. SHRI HARADHAN ROY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state the reaction of ONGC scientists and technical officers on the Government's decision to open up some potential oil fields to foreign companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): Doubts had been expressed in certain quarters about the involvement of private parties for purpose of development of oil and gas fields. The rationale for the Government policy of inviting private participation for this purpose has been explained to the concerned groups.

Financial Assistance of Entrepreneurs

2098. SHRI ANANTRAO DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the total investment by the Private Sector in Food Processing Industries as on March 31, 1994;

(b) whether the Government propose to provide financial assistance to entrepreneurs in this sector; and

(c) if so, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) Food Processing Industries are both in the organised and unorganised sectors and information in respect of the total investment made by the Private Sector is not maintained centrally. However, as per available information, since liberalisation 2574 Industrial Entrepreneur Memoranda have been filed involving an investment of about Rs. 32,845 crores for setting up Food Processing Industries upto 31 March, 1994. Besides, approval has been given for setting up Units under 100% Export-Oriented Units Schemes, Joint Venture/Foreign Collaboration involving a total investment of about Rs. 6400 crores.

(b) and (c). Ministry of Food Processing Industries has formulated and is operating a number of developmental Plan Scheme which provides financial assistance to State Government Organisations, Cooperatives, Voluntary Agencies, Joint Sectors/Private Sectors etc. for setting up or enlarging Food Processing facilities, developing backward linkages with farmers, marketing support, pork, poultry and meat processing facilities,

tuna and other fish processing facilities, deep sea fishing and processing, setting up of cold-chain, Research and Development in Food Processing and packaging and manpower in certain sectors.

Crude Oil From Rava Oil Field in K.G. BASIN

2099. S H R I
SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated quantity of crude oil that may be available from 'Rava Oil Field' and other Oil fields in K.G. Basin;

(b) the quantum of crude oil production as on March 31, 1994 from this K.G. Basin;

(c) the reasons for not drawing out the optimum quantity of crude from this basin; and

(d) the steps taken to extract the maximum quantity that can be drawn keeping in view the need to reduce the foreign exchange out-go on import of crude oil?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) As on 1.4.1994, balance recoverable reserves of crude oil in Rava field and other fields in KG basin were about 17.92 million tonnes.

(b) ONGC has produced about 0.256 million tonnes of crude oil from KG onshore and KG offshore till March 1994.

(c) The annual crude oil production targets are based on the optimum production potential of different fields.

(d) For optimal exploitation of crude oil, ONGC is taking requisite action like well servicing/repair/work-over, well stimulation and installation/repair of artificial lift. Government has also offered development of some of the small and medium sized oil fields in KG basin both onshore and offshore through JVCs/private parties.

S.T.D. Phones with Electronic Exchanges

2100. SHRI GABHAJI MANGAJI THAKORE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Gujarat Telecom has a proposal to connect all STD phones with an electronic exchange;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether some other Telecom circles have also implemented this proposal; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) All STD phones in Gujarat Telecom. Circle are proposed to be progressively connected with electronic exchanges by March, 1997. 26 electronic exchanges planned in 1994-95 for expansion of Telephone systems where electromechanical exchanges are working at present are likely to serve STD subscribers of these electromechanical exchanges.

(c) and (d) No. Sir. However other Telecom circles are also drawing plans for meeting the objective of connecting all STD phones to electronic exchanges by March, 1997.

[Translation]

Fire in Hazari Bagh Exchange

2101. SHRI BHUBANESHWAR PRASAD MEHTA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any case of fire incident occurred in Hazari Bagh electronic telephone exchange in Bihar, recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the estimated loss suffered by the Government;

(d) whether any enquiry has been conducted in this regard;

(e) if so, the findings thereof; and

(f) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Yes, Sir. On 3rd Feb., 1994.

(b) Various type of telephone exchange equipment/cards were burnt.

(c) The cost of damage is estimated to the tune of approximately Rs.90 lakh (Rupees Ninety lakhs only).

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) The cause of fire is attributed to electrical short circuit.

(f) The important telephones were restored on 3.2.94 and rest of the telephones were restored by 7.2.94 by installing 4 units of 128P C.DOT. One DATE-36 Switch and reenergising the replaced 1500 L MAX.II

Stroewger Exchange. Arrangements are being made to install a new 2000 C.DOT exchange by March, 1995 depending upon the availability of the equipment.

Bridges On National Highways In Maharashtra

2102. SHRI TEJSINGHRAO BHONSLE: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of bridges constructed on National Highways in Maharashtra during 1993-94 and the number of bridges proposed to be constructed during 1994-95 indicating the locations thereof; and

(b) the number of bridges repaired during the last two years in Maharashtra with year-wise details of the amount spent thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLR):

(a) During 1993-94, eleven bridges were constructed. Twenty eight bridges are proposed to be constructed during 1994-95, as detailed below:-

<i>Location</i>	<i>No. of bridges</i>
NH-3	2
NH-4	4
NH-4B	11
NH-6	7
NH-7	2
NH-9	1
NH-50	1

(b) During 1992-93, sixteen bridges and during 1993-94, sixteen bridges were repaired and amount spent is Rs.58.12 lakh and Rs.40.08 lakh respectively.

[English]

LPG Connections In Gujarat

2103. SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL:
Will the Minister of PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of gas connections likely to be provided to the persons in waiting lists in Jamnagar and other Districts of Gujarat during 1994-95;

(b) the number of applications pending in Jamnagar and other districts of Gujarat as

on July, 31, 1994; and

(c) the steps being taken to clear the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) to (c) Allotment of new gas connections is not made on Statewise or district-wise basis. New LPG connections are released in a phased manner throughout the country including Gujarat, depending upon the availability of LPG, total new customers enrolment, waiting list, slack available with the distributors and their viability. Efforts are, however, constantly on to release LPG connections to as many applicants and as early as possible. a statement showing district-wise waiting list as on 31.7.1994 is given in the statement enclosed.

Statement

DISTRICT	WAITING LIST AS ON 31.7.1994
AHMEDABAD	177212
AMRELI	17997
BARODA	47022
BANA SKANTHA	13223
BHARUCH	26689
BHAVNAGAR	54614
GANDHINAGAR	44486
JAMNAGAR	30932
JUNAGADH	31650
KHEDA	24128

<i>DISTRICT</i>	<i>WAITING LIST AS ON 31.7.1994</i>
KUTCH	23260
MEHSANA	52391
PANCHMAHAL	13940
RAJKOT	85900
SURAT	138842
VALSAD	37720
SABARKANTA	9592
SURENDRA NAGAR	12275

P.M.G'S Conference

2104. **SHRISANDIPANBHAGWAN THORAT:** Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether two days' Conference of PMGs took place recently at New Delhi;

(b) if so, the issues discussed and decisions arrived at in the Conference; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Issues discussed in Conference were:

(1) Modernisation of services including

new products and services and Panchayat Dak Ghar Yojana.

(2) Excellence in mail services.

(3) Opportunity for educated unemployed youth to participate in postal services.

(4) Mahila Samridhhi Yojana.

(5) Restructuring and Re-organisation of the Department.

DECISIONS TAKEN:

(1) Emphasis on more efficiency in counter services for maxi-mising customer satisfaction.

(2) Segmentation of mails for speeding them up.

(3) Innovative outlets for sale of stamps/ stationery and booking of regd. articles etc.

through non Governmental agencies.

Lakhipur

(4) Greater involvement of Post Offices in Mahila Samridhi Yojana.

North Lakhampur

(5) Reorganisation of the Department to make it an efficient instrument of service to the community.

Pathsala

Sibsagar

(6) Government's decision will be taken in due course.

Silchar (2)

Titabar

L P G Agencies in Assam

2105. SHRI PROBINDEKA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the locations in Assam where LPG agencies have been opened upto 30th June, 1994; and

(b) the details of advertisement, interview and other formalities completed for selection of distributors for these locations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) and (b) following locations have been included in the current LPG Marketing Plan 1992-94 for Assam:

Amguri

Bongaigaon (2)

Dibrugarh

Guwahati (3)

Jakhalabanda

Jorhat

Kanpur

Selection of LPG distributors is underway through Oil Selection Board (North-East), in accordance with the prescribed procedure for advertisement and interviews, etc.

[Translation]

Branch Post Offices in M.P.

2106. SHRI KHELAN RAM JANGDE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state the number of branch post offices sanctioned and actually opened in Madhya Pradesh during 1993-94?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): The number of branch post offices sanctioned and opened in Madhya Pradesh during 1993-94 is 30.

[English]

Telephone Exchanges in H.P.

2107. MAJORD.D.KHANORIA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of Telephone exchanges working in Kangra district in Himachal Pradesh at present with capacity of each

exchange; and

(b) the number of telephones sanctioned, actually installed and the waiting list, Exchange-wise in Kangra district?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MNISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) and (b). The details are given in the statement enclosed.

STATEMENT

Sl. No.	Name of the Exchange (Kangra Distt)	Cap.	Wkg. Conns. as on 30.6.94	Telephones sanctioned by MOS (C)/MPs & actually installed as on 30.6.94	Sanctioned	Installed	Waiting list as on 30.6.96
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
1.	Baroh	56	42	-	-	5	
2.	Chari	160	119	-	-	7	
3.	Alampur	88	76	-	-	13	
4.	Bajinath	512	472	40	9	174	
5.	Bhawarna	384	267	3	-	40	
6.	Bohana	56	19	2	-	9	
7.	Badukhar	88	18	-	-	8	
8.	Chadhikar	88	46	2	2	46	
9.	Droh	88	74	4	-	61	
10.	Daultapur	88	46	-	-	12	

Sl. No.	Name of the Exchange (Kangra Distt)	Cap.	Wkg. Conns. as on 30.6.94	Telephones sanctioned by MOS (C)/MPs & actually installed as on 30.6.94	Sanctioned	Installed	Waiting list as on 30-6-96
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
11.	Dhambta	88	41	-	-	2	
12.	Dharmasala	1720	1567	173	50	469	
13.	Fatepur	88	61	-	-	7	
14.	Gopalpur	88	79	2	-	68	
15.	Gaggal	190	178	7	-	68	
16.	Gangath	88	81	-	-	21	
17.	Harchakian	25	9	-	-	5	
18.	Harsar	88	44	-	-	22	
19.	Indora	96	96	1	-	41	
20.	Jaisinghpur	88	86	1	-	58	
21.	Jalot	45	21	-	-	2	

Sl. No.	Name of the Exchange Kangra Distt)	Cap.	Wkg. Conns. as on 30.6.94	Telep/honesanctioned by MOS (C)/MPs & actually installed as on 30.6.94	Sanctioned	Installed	Waiting list as on 30-6-96
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
22.	Jwali	160	149	-	-	-	53
23.	Khera	88	68	1	-	-	31
24.	Khaniara	56	42	1	-	-	3
25.	Khandwal	88	56	1	1	-	14
26.	Khajian	88	59	-	-	-	19
27.	Katola	88	75	-	-	-	12
28.	Kangra	1000	822	164	102	-	147
29.	Lanj	88	37	-	-	-	8
30.	Masreth	88	53	-	-	-	1
31.	NagrotalBGW	472	450	16	7	-	172
32.	Nurpur	480	461	10	8	-	105

Sl. No.	Name of the Exchange (Kangra Distt)	Cap.	Wkg. Conns. as on 30.6.94	Telephones sanctioned by MOS (C)/MPs & actually installed as on 30.6.94	Sanctioned	Installed	Waiting list as on 30-6-96
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
33.	Palampur	2088	1700	72	40	325	
34.	Pahra	88	69	-	-	11	
35.	Paraur	160	104	3	-	61	
36.	Panchrukhi	184	160	5	-	58	
37.	panjera	88	33	-	-	11	
38.	Ranital	45	44	-	-	11	
39.	Rehan	384	100	6	5	165	
40.	Shahpur	384	319	1	-	45	
41.	Sulaila	88	76	-	-	25	
42.	Sunhi	88	19	-	-	4	
43.	Thural	88	76	4	-	49	

Sl. No.	Name of the Exchange Kangra Distt)	Cap.	Wkg Conns. as on 30.6.94	Telephones sanctioned by MOS (C)/MPs & actually installed as on 30.6.94 Sanctioned	Waiting list as on 30-6-96
1	2	3	4	5	6
					7
44.	Yol	384	274	10	5
45.	Dehra	384	364	4	3
46.	Dadasiba	88	32	2	1
47.	Dhaliara	88	80	5	4
48.	Jwalamukhi	384	185	9	7
50.	Khundian	88	15	-	-
51.	Nagrota-Surian	88	71	3	2
52.	Paragpur	88	777	25	2
53.	Pirsaluhi	88	58	-	-
54.	Rakkaer	88	67	4	-
55.	Ghalor	88	85	3	2
					11

Sl. No.	Name of the Exchange (Kangra Distt)	Cap.	Wkg. Conns. as on 30.6.94	Telephones sanctioned by MOS (C)/MPs & actually installed as on 30.6.94		Waiting list as on 30-6-96
1	2	3	4	5 Sanctioned	6 Installed	7
56.	Haripur	96	88	17	15	17
57.	Jorbag	88	35	2	-	10
58.	Paisa	88	15	-	-	32
59.	Badalthor	88	34	-	-	31*
60.	Majhin	88	12	-	-	5
61.	Lagru	88	11	-	-	21
62.	Sansarpur					
	TRC	88	54	1	-	2
63.	Bankhandi	88	21	1	-	13
64.	Kasba Kotla	56	17	-	-	11

Consumption Of Petroleum Products

last three years, State-wise?

2108. DR. K. V. R. CHOWDARY:
Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND
NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND
NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR
SHARMA): The consumption Petroleum
products in the Country during the last three
years, State-wise, is given in the enclosed
statement.

the item-wise consumption of the
Petroleum products in the country during the

STATEMENT

(Figures in '000' Tons)

States/UTs.	1991-92	1992-93	1994-95
1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh	3457.73	3747.92	3924.78
Assam	987.60	931.74	881044
Bihar	2846.40	3059.99	3335.98
Goa	672.16	659.23	657.12
Gujarat	6062.65	6001.52	6005.09
Jammu & Kashmir	331.84	360.83	398.88
Kerala	1974.23	1998.99	2193.45
Madhya Pradesh	2562.23	2661.50	2783.16
Tamilnadu	5016.90	5115.62	5195.69
Maharashtra	9320.64	9798.60	10169.36

States/UTs.	1991-92	1992-93	1994-95
1	2	3	4
Karnataka	2579.8	2699.68	2887.97
Orissa	1216.52	1241.58	1269.06
Punjab	2945.73	3052.75	3126.92
Rajasthan	2433.01	2594.94	2798.52
Uttar Pradesh	5970.22	6252.03	6374.11
West Bengal	3407.56	3373.32	3351.67
Haryana	1808.96	1856.75	1996.84
Himachal Pradesh	207.73	222.79	240.16
Manipur	64.97	70.70	66.86
Meghalaya	107.76	117.59	118.03
Nagaland	49.42	53.86	51.82

States/UTs.	1991-92	1992-93	1994-95
1	2	3	4
Sikkim	16.43	19.85	19.90
Tripura	61.78	70.64	68.10
Andman & Nikobar	45.73	48.67	53.25
Arunachal Pradesh	72.33	74.66	84.85
Chandigarh	185.49	175.31	208.14
Delhi	2260.53	2292.91	2423.21
Dadra & Nagar Hav.	21.29	25.46	27.73
Daman & Diu	13.85	14.73	15.63
Lakshadweep	4.17	4.05	3.22
Mizoram	28.17	31.51	39.20
Pondicherry	129.89	151.01	160.79

Pact with Romania and Bulgaria on Terrorism

[Translation]

2109. SHRI KRUPASINDHU BHOL: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to sign pact with Romania and Bulgaria to combat terrorism;

(b) if so, the steps taken in that direction; and

(c) the brief outlines of the pact, if signed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMANKHURSHEED): (a) Yes Sir. During President's visits to Bulgaria and Romania in May-June 1994, Agreements for combating terrorism were signed with both countries. The Agreements were signed by the Minister of Home Affairs on our side and by the Bulgarian and Romanian Ministers of Interior respectively.

(b) The Agreements with both countries will enter into force after requirements of domestic legislation have been completed in the respective countries and notifications exchanged to this effect.

(c) The Agreements with Bulgaria and Romania are to be implemented by the Ministry of Home Affairs on the Indian side and the Ministries of Interior of Bulgaria and Romania respectively. The Agreements provide for exchange of information, regulations, sharing of fruits of research, equipment and experts for purposes of combating international terrorism, illegal trafficking in narcotics and psychotropic substances, organised crime including economic offences, forgery, illegal arms deals etc.

Toll Tax on Bridges at National Highways

2110. SHRI KESHRI LAL: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether toll tax is being collected in respect of the bridges constructed at National Highways; and

(b) if so, the time upto which the toll tax will be collected in respect of the bridges constructed at Jhansi-Kanpur-Lucknow Highway over Ganga and Yamuna rivers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Yes Sir. Fee is collected on permanent bridges costing more than Rs. 100 lakhs.

(b) The fee is levied until the total cost of construction, interest and maintenance etc, is fully realised. It is not possible to indicate the period as this depends upon the volume of traffic.

[English]

Deviations on National Highway-17

2111. SHRI K. MURALEE DHARAN: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state the present status of the proposal regarding the Quilandy and Chovva-nadal deviations in National Highway-17?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): Proposal for Quilandy and Chovva-Nadal deviations of NH 17 is not included in the 8th Five Year

Plan due to budgetary constraints.

Production of Kerosene

2112. SHRI K. PRADHANI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the average annual production of kerosene in the country at present;

(b) whether the kerosene produced at present is adequate to meet the requirement in the country;

(c) if not, the steps being taken to increase the production; and

(d) the alternative steps taken to meet the requirement of kerosene?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) : (a) and (b). As against the consumption of kerosene of about 8.69 MMT during 1993-94 the indigenous production was about 5.27 MMT.

(c) and (d). The deficit is met by import. Also, Government have allowed private investment in the oil refining sector and decanalised the import of kerosene to be imported and sold by private parties at market related prices.

Adulteration of Kerosene

2113. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the large scale adulteration of Kerosene in several parts of the country; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to check this malpractice?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) : (a) and (b) Very few reports of adulteration of kerosene in the country are being received from the States. Reports are however being received regarding adulteration of MS and HSD with kerosene. In order to check the adulteration of kerosene, steps such as furfural doping of kerosene, blue dyeing of kerosene, sample testing by mobile laboratories and surprise inspections by field officers of Oil Companies and State Authorities, and delivered supply of kerosene have been taken. The Central Government has also requested the State Governments to rationalise the system of retail distribution to prevent diversion and black-marketing of kerosene and other irregularities.

[Translation]

S.K.O.L. at Badhwani, Madhya Pradesh

2114. SHRI SURAJBHANU SOLANKI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to open S.K.O.L. at Badhwani, district Khargaon, in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, by when; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) : (a) to (c) A letter of Intent for setting up an SKO-LDO dealership at Badhwani, District Khargaon (M.P.) has been issued under 'SC' category. It takes about 6-

12 months for commissioning of the dealership after issue of LOI.

Oil Production in Chapang Area of Nagaland

2115. SHRI RAMNIHORE RAI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for which the Government of Nagaland have asked the Oil and Natural Gas Commission to suspend its oil production work in Chapang and other areas;

(b) whether the production cost of O.N.G.C. in Assam, Nagaland etc., is more than that of Oil India Limited;

(c) the per metric tonne production

cost of both the companies during the last two years; and

(d) the production made by Oil India Limited and O.N.G.C. in Assam during the last two years, separately?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) State Government of Nagaland have asked ONGC to stop drilling operations in Nagaland since according to them ONGC have extracted more than the quantity agreed upon under the Petroleum Exploration Licence (PEL) granted to them.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The production cost of crude oil by ONGC and Oil India during the last two years is given below:-

	1992-93	(Rs/MMT)	1993-94
ONGC	1116		1124
OIL	717.12		803.54

(d) : The production of crude oil by ONGC and Oil India in Assam during the last

two years had been as given below:-

Year	ONGC	(In MMT)	OIL
1992-93		2.44	2.46
1993-94		2.25	2.76

Post and Telegraph Offices in Haryana:

2116. SHRI AVTAR SINGH BHADANA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of villages in Haryana provided with postal and telephone services during the last three years, year-wise and district-wise;

(b) the number of villages in the State without these services, district-wise and the time by which such services are likely to be provided there; and

(c) the existing capacity of the telephone exchanges located in Faridabad district and the steps being taken by the Government for increasing the capacity thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) District-wise details of number of villages in Haryana provided with postal and telephone services during last three years are given in the statement I & II respectively.

(b) District-wise details of number of

village with out post offices and telephone service are also given in the Annexure-I & II respectively.

Post offices are opened under Annual Plans progressively taking into consideration the prescribed norms as well as availability of resources.

Government have adopted a policy of providing one public telephone to every village including those of Haryana State, progressively by March 1997, subject to availability of resources.

(c) Existing capacity of telephone exchanges located in Faridabad district is 38500 lines. Government have planned to add 10000 lines during the current financial year.

District-wise information regarding the number of villages in Haryana Provided with post office during the last Three Years .

Sl. No.	Name of District	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94	No of village without post Office
1.	Ambala	147	14	151	587
2.	Bhiwani	199	199	200	225
3.	Faridabad	84	84	87	342
4.	Gurgaon	299	301	304	199
5.	Hissar	299	301	304	199
6.	Jind	145	145	140	180
7.	Karnal	128	128	130	184
8.	Kurukshetra	86	87	87	304
9.	Kaithal	108	110	111	351
10.	Mohindergarh	106	108	108	328

Sl. No.	Name of District	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94	No of village without post Office
11.	Panipat	81	81	81	105
12.	Rewari	112	112	112	179
13.	Rohtak	221	224	226	212
14.	Sirsa	143	143	144	174
15.	Sonepat	153	153	154	164
16.	Yamuna Nagar	95	96	96	398

STATEMENT-II

District-wise Details of Villages in Haryana Provided with and without telephone services as on 31st March, 1994

Sl. No	Name of District	No of villages Provided with telephone services during 1991-92	No of Villages Provided with telephone services during 1992-93	No. of Villages Provided with telephone services during 1993-94	No of Villages without telephone services as on 31-311994
1.	Ambala	200	75	149	175
2.	Yamuna Nagar	150	88	103	167
3	Karnal	42	40	70	144
4.	Kurukshetra	40	50	154	434
5	Kaithal	30	33	45	140
6.	Panipat	23	30	31	72

Sl. No.	Name of District	No. of villages Provided with telephone services during 1991-92	No. of Villages Provided with telephone services during 1992-93	No. of Villages Provided with telephone services during 1993-94	No of Villages without telephone services as on 31-31.1994
7.	Jind	68	700	56	21
8.	Rohtak	39	120	83	43
9.	Bhiwani	45	60	46	99
10.	Sonepat	90	54	71	66
11.	Hissar	130	67	143	108
12.	Sirsa	75	32	90	79
13.	Fardabad	72	35	40	208

Sl. No.	Name of District	No. of villages Provided with telephone services during 1991-92	No. of Villages Provided with telephone services during 1992-93	No. of Villages Provided with telephone services during 1993-94	No of Villages without telephone services as on 31-31.1994
14.	Gurgaon	58	52	32	521
15.	Rewari	81	73	45	117
16.	Mahindergarh	80	72	45	135
		1203	981	1303	2229

[English]

S.T.D. in Telephone Exchange in Kerala

2117. SHRI THAYIL JOHN ANJALOSE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the target fixed and achieved for providing STD facility in the telephone exchanges functioning in Kerala particularly in Alleppey district during 1993-94; and

(b) the time by which the said facility is likely to be provided in rest of the exchanges in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKHRAM): (a) - 126 stations were proposed for providing STD facility in Kerala during 93-94.

- 163 stations were provided with the STD facility during 93-94.

- All the 5 stations proposed for provision of STD facility during 93-94 had been connected to the STD network in Alleppey District.

(b) All the exchanges are proposed to be connected to the STD network during the 8th plan period subject to the availability of resources such as land, building, equipment, funds etc.

[Translation]

Milk Processing Units in rural Areas.

2118. SHRI DHARMANNA MONDAYYA SADUL: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether very few units for processing of milk have been set up in the rural areas during the last three years; and

(b) if so, the incentives proposed to be given to entrepreneurs for setting up Units for processing of milk in rural areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) and (b). Central Government does not set up the Food Processing Industries directly. Since the processing and manufacturing of milk and milk products have been delicensed, there are no restrictions in the setting up of milk based industries in cottage scale and rural areas. Government have received 774 Industrial Entrepreneurs Memoranda (IEM) for setting up of units including substantial expansion of existing units for the processing of milk and manufacture of milk products in rural areas and out of which 15 units have intimated the commencement of commercial production. Such units normally take a period of about 2-3 years for implementation.

Oil Refinery in Gujarat

2119. SHRI N.J. RATHVA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received any request from the Gujarat Government for setting up of an oil refinery; and

(b) if so, the decision taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA)

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

Ship Service between Calicut and Lakshadweep Islands

2120. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMCHANDRAN : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether daily ship service is available between Beypore in Calicut district of Kerala and Lakshadweep Islands;

(b) if not, whether there is any proposal to introduce this service in the near future;

(c) whether there is any proposal from Shipping Corporation of India to connect Beypore with Bombay; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Chittagong Hill Tracts Problem of Bangladesh

2121. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any request from Bangladesh for solving Chittagong Hill tracts problems; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the response of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) No, Sir: we have not received any request from Bangladesh for solving Chittagong Hill Tracts problems. Our discussions with them relate to the speedy repatriation of Bangladeshi tribal refugees presently living in Tripura.

(b) Does not arise.

Port and other Handling Charges

2122. SHRI AMAL DATTA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the cost incurred by consignees of cargoes both container-wise and loose in the different major ports;

(b) whether there is any proposal to bring down the port and other handling charges of cargo in these ports; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) The costs to be incurred by the consignees at ports comprise rates chargeable by port itself as well as other agencies. The latter are not covered by the scale of rates. The cost varies from port to port and also from cargo to cargo. It is, therefore, not possible to quantify the actual cost.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Assistance from Welfare Fund

2123. SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any financial assistance from the Welfare Fund of his department is being given to the dependents of deceased and retired employees after their death and in the cases of prolonged illness, serious illness/operations;

(b) if so, the number of employees benefitted during 1993 under the scheme; and

(c) the total amount disbursed, item-wise and circle-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Yes, Sir. Financial assistance from the Welfare Fund of this department is given to the dependents of deceased and retired employees after their death. Financial assistance in the case of prolonged illness serious illness/operations are also given to the serving employees of the department.

(b) and (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

N.T.P.C.

2124. DR. K.D. JESWANI: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether N.T.P.C. plans Float bonds for NRIs; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Public Sector Steel Plants

2125. SHRI S.B. SIDNAL: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the details of proposals received for undertaking modernisation work of the public sector steel plants;

(b) the number of proposals that have been cleared;

(c) whether public sector undertakings will also be involved in the modernisation of these plants; and

(d) if so, the share proposed to be given to them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) and (b). Except for the proposal for Modernisation of Indian Iron and Steel Company (IISCO), (a subsidiary of SAIL) which has been referred to the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) as a sick Industrial company in terms of the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985 by its Board of Directors, the Government have approved the undermentioned proposals of SAIL for Renovation and Technological Upgradation (Modernisation) of its integrated steel plants:

i) Durgapur Steel Plant (DSP) Modernisation.

ii) Rourkela Steel Plant (RSP) Modernisation.

iii) Bokaro Steel Plant (BSL)
Modernisation - Stage.I.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The details of the share of public sector undertakings in each of these modernisation projects are as follows:

Name of the Plant	Rs. in crores
DSP	450 (Includes consultant's fee)
RSP	1086.68
BSL	121 (Ordering of packages is still in progress).

L.P.G. Connections in Andhra Pradesh

2126. SHRI YELLAIAH NANDI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of LPG agencies presently functioning in the country as on 30 June, 1994 State-wise;

(b) the number of L.P.G. agencies sanctioned during the last three years, year-wise; and

(c) the steps the Government are taking to curb the malpractices resorted to by L.P.G. distributors?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) As on 1.4.1994, there were 4292 LPG distributorships all over the country.

(b) Following number of LPG distributorships have been allotted during the last three years:

1991-92	-	72
1992-93	-	104
1993-94	-	381

(c) Marketing Discipline guidelines are enforced strictly by closely monitoring operation of the distributorships. Surprise inspections are conducted from time to time to check malpractices by LPG distributors and appropriate action is taken against defaulting distributors.

Enron Development Corporation at Dabhol

✓ 2127. SHRI SHARAD DIGHE:
SHRI RAM KAPSE:
SHRI RAM NAIK:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the U.S. based Enron Development Corporation Project (Dabhol), Management has taken a plea that all suits against them shall be decided by foreign courts; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) and (b). It is not true that Enron has taken a plea that all suits against them shall be decided by foreign courts. To Power purchase agreement substantively, the Indian law will apply. Only if and when arbitration is to be held, it shall be held outside india under the laws of the place of arbitration and under UNCITRAL (United

Nations Commission on International Trade Law) procedures for arbitration because of delays in Indian arbitration proceedings, as is normally the practice in such agreements.

[Translation]

Meeting of Power Ministers of States

2128. SHRI NITISH KUMAR:
SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Inter-State Conference of all the Power Ministers was organised in January, 1993;

(b) if so, the details of the decisions taken in the conference;

(c) the States and Union Territories where these decisions have been implemented;

(d) the details of the decisions which could not be implemented so far;

(e) whether any programme has been chalked out by the Government to implement the above decisions; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) With a view to achieving the prescribed statutory 3% rate of return on net fixed assets, an Action Plan covering the following important aspects of the functioning of the State Electricity Boards (SEBs) was adopted in this Conference:-

(1) Improvement in Plant Load Factor;

(2) Reduction in Transmission & Distribution Losses;

(3) Tariff Rationalisation;

(4) Settlement of outstanding dues of SEBs;

(5) Expeditious utilisation of available external assistance;

(6) Promoting private sector participation in power generation and distribution.

(c) to (f) The initiative in implementing these measures rests with the concerned State Governments/SEBs and the Government of India has been following up regularly. A statement showing the details of the progress of implementation of the decisions is given in the enclosed statement.

Statement

Details of the Progress of Implementation of the Decisions taken in the Conference of power Ministers, 1993

1. *Improvement of PLF of SEBs:* For improving the PLF of SEBs, the following action plan was adopted.

(a) SEB With PLF below 40% - to be improved by a minimum of 3% per annum during the VIII plan;

(b) SEBs with PLF between 40% and 60% to be improved by a minimum of 2% per annum;

(c) SEBs with PLF above 60% - to be improved by a minimum of 1% per annum;

A statement showing the PLF for the

year 1993-94 is enclosed as Annexure-I. The All India PLF WAS 61% in 1993-94 against a target of 57.8%.

2. *Reduction in T&D Losses:*

Concerted efforts on the part of the SEBs have brought down T&D losses for the year 1992-93 to 21.8% as compared to 22.83% in 1991-92 reducing the losses by 1.03%. A statement indicating Statewise Transmission and Distribution Losses for the years 1991-92 and 1992-93 is given in the enclosed (Annexure-II)

3. *Tariff Rationalisation:* The following SEBs have revised their tariffs during 1992-93 and 1993-94 :-

"Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh and Assam.

The following States and Union Territories have implemented the minimum agricultural tariff of 50 paise per kwh for metered supply:-

Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, West Bengal, Assam, Meghalaya, Goa, Manipur, Sikkim, Nagaland, Mizoram, Tripura, Delhi and Dadar and Haveli.

4. *Settlement of Outstanding Dues of SEBs:* The SEBs have been advised to clear the outstanding dues of Central Sector generating Corporations. SEBs have been advised to open LCs to the extent of 105% of their average monthly billing both in respect

of supply of power and transmission charges. MOUs have been signed with most of the SEBs with respect to supply of power/ transmission charges by the NTPC/ Powergrid with the provision for disconnecting electricity supply to the State on non-payment of dues. In order to ensure that disputed bills are settled expeditiously. Regional Umpires have since been appointed in two Regions. Further, recovery from Central Plan Assistance to the States concerned has also been resorted to.

5. *Expeditious Utilisation of Available External Assistance:* There has been a step up in the utilisation of external assistance in view of the emphasis placed by the Ministry of power on speedy execution of projects receiving external assistance.

6. *Promoting Private Sector Participation in Power Generation and Distribution:* in order to encourage private sector participation in power generation and distribution the Government have evolved a package of incentives and guidelines for private power development. The Government is constantly inter-acting with prospective entrepreneurs, Chambers of Commerce, Trade Associations, State Governments and SEBs in this regard. Around 1340 MW of new capacity is currently under construction in the private sector and a new Licensee company has started functioning. Further around 75 expressions of interest, out of which 35 are from companies based abroad, for putting up a generating capacity of 3262 MW values at Rs.1,04,152 crores and for setting up two distribution companies have been received.

ANNEXURE-I

PLANT LOAD FACTOR TARGET AND ACHIEVEMENT FOR THE YEAR 1993-94 AND TARGET FOR THE YEAR 1994-95

Organisation / Sector	1993-94		1994-95	
	Target	Achievement	Target	
1	2	3	4	
CENTRAL SECTOR				
N.T.P.C.	64.4	76.9	73.9	
N.L.C.	60.3	55.5	69.3	
D.V.C.	38.3	42.3	42.6	
TOTAL	60.6	69.8	69.2	

Organisation / Sector	1993-94		1994-95	
	Target	Achievement	Target	
1	2	3	4	
STATE SECTOR				
DESU	59.5	49.0	63.2	
H.S.E.B	51.8	40.3	51.8	
R.S.E.B	74.9	81.1	82.9	
P.S.E.B	60.4	63.5	67.8	
U.P.S.E.B.	52.8	50.1	50.3	
G.E.B	65.5	60.4	62.9	
M.S.E.B	58.0	64.1	64.3	

Organisation / Sector	1993-94		1994-95	
	Target	Achievement	Target	
1	2	3	4	
M.P.E.B.	54.9	56.0	56.5	
A.P.S.E.B.	69.5	68.7	72.5	
Vijeswaram(APGPC)	0.00	0.0		
K.P.C.	70.7	66.9	70.7	
T.N.E.B.	61.5	69.1	62.9	
B.S.E.B.	29.0	24.4	30.3	
O.S.E.B.	34.7	35.6	39.0	
W.B.S.E.B.	44.1	40.5	41.8	

Organisation / Sector	1993-94		1994-95	
	Target	Achievement	Target	
1	2	3	4	
W.B.P.D.C	55.1	68.2	64.4	
DPL	30.7	26.3	29.3	
A.S.E.B.	32.5	19.9	33.6	
STATE SECTOR	56.4	56.5	58.5	
PRIVATE SECTOR				
A.E.Co.	71.4	67.0	70.3	
Trombay	51.5	48.8	52.4	
CESC	61.0	71.3	67.8	
TOTAL	57.1	57.0	58.9	
ALL INDIA	57.8	61.0	62.0	

ANNEXURE-II

STATEMENT INDICATING STATEWISE TRANSMISSION AND DISTRIBUTION LOSSES

Region	State/UT	1992-92	1992-93
NORTHERN REGION	1. Haryana	26.79	26.79
	2. Himachal Pradesh	19.01	19.98
	3. Jammu & Kashmir	50.8	48.13
	4. Punjab	21.70	19.61
	5. Rajasthan	23.07	22.71
	6. Uttar Pradesh	26.14	24.68
	7. Chandigarh	29.64	26.21
	8. Delhi	24.66	24.02
	9. BBMB	4.36	3.52

Region	State/UT	1992-92	1992-93
WESTERN REGION	1. Gujarat	23.56	22.20
	2. Madhya Pradesh	25.82	22.52
	3. Maharashtra	18.61	18.51
	4. D & N Haveli	19.66	17.98
	5. Goa	25.70	21.80
	6. Daman & Diu	15.90	15.67
SOUTHERN REGION	1. Andhra Pradesh	20.25	20.65
	2. Karnataka	19.93	19.62
	3. Kerala	22.47	22.77

Region	State/UT	1992-92	1992-93
EASTERN REGION	4. Tamil Nadu	18.44	17.30
	5. Lakshadweep Isles	17.43	18.72
	6. Pondicherry	18.00	15.31
	1. Bihar	18.31	17.15
	2. Orissa	25.50	25.87
	3. Sikkim	25.89	22.91
NORTH-EASTERN REGION	4. West Bengal	19.72	17.55
	5. A & N Isls.	21.66	23.62
	6. DVC	2.30	1.99
	1. Assam	22.66	21.41
	2. Manipur	24.43	22.35

Region	State/UT	1992-92	1992-93
3.	Meghalaya	11.65	11.62
4.	Nagaland	23.14	27.26
5.	Tripura	31.96	30.64
6.	Arunachal Pradesh	28.20	32.32
7.	Mizoram	34.95	29.04
	ALL INDIA (UTILITIES)	22.83	21.80

NOTE- THE LOWER T & D LOSSES FIGURES IN RESPECT OF MEGHALAYA ARE DUE TO BULK SALE OF ENERGY TO THE NEIGHBOURING STATES.

[English]

Diesel Pump in Bombay Port Trust Area

2129. SHRI SUDHIR SAWANT: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether fishermen's cooperative society has applied for starting a diesel pump in Bombay Port Trust area; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which the permission for the diesel pump is likely to be granted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). A fishermen's Cooperative Society has made an application to the Bombay Port Trust for setting up a diesel outlet in the New ferry Wharf/Malet Bander area. This request will be considered as per the rules & regulations presently in force.

[Translation]

Minorities in Bangladesh

2130. SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the reports regarding alleged atrocities on minorities including Hindus in Bangladesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have taken up the matter with the Government of Bangladesh; and

(d) if so, the details and the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir; these reports pertain to various types of difficulties and hardships faced by the minority communities in Bangladesh.

(c) and (d). Protection of its citizens including those belonging to the minority communities is the responsibility of the Government of Bangladesh. We have, from time to time, conveyed to the Government of Bangladesh our concern in this regard as well as our expectation that the interests of minorities in Bangladesh will be duly safeguarded.

[English]

Decentralisation of Telecom Sector

2131. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to give functional, financial, operational and administrative autonomy to some selected Telephone regions;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is a high degree of Centralisation in the present system of administration of the Telecom Sector; and

(d) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to decentralise the present system?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) A separate Telecom Circle for Andaman & Nicobar Islands headed by a Chief General Manager, Telecom has been

formed on 01.08.1994.

(c) No Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Post Offices in Bihar

2132. SHRI PHOOL CHAND VERMA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state;

(a) the number of villages in Bihar without

post office facility at present, district-wise; and

(b) the number of villages having this facility, district-wise and category-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) and (b). The number of villages in Bihar with and without post offices district-wise and category-wise is given in the enclosed statement.

STATEMENT

DETAILS OF THE NUMBER OF VILLAGE IN BIHAR WITH AND WITHOUT POST OFFICES, DISTRICT-WISE AND CATEGORY-WISE.

S. No.	Name of district	Head post Office	Departmental Sub. post office	Extra departmental sub post office	Extra departmental branch post office	No. of village without post office.
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.
1.	Araria	-	8	-	146	842
2.	Aurangabad	-	15	3	241	1589
3.	Banka	-	11	12	162	1019
4.	Begusrai	-	16	4	194	867
5.	Bhabhua	-	6	-	96	1613
6.	Bhaglpur	-	12	11	216	1736
7.	Bhojpur	-	26	2	253	968
8.	Brokaro	-	4	-	105	689

S. No.	Name of district	Head post Office	Departmental Sub. post office	Extra departmental sub post office	Extra departmental branch post office	No. of village without post office.
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.
9.	Buxar	-	22		150	962.
10.	Chatra	-	5	1	75	935
11.	Darbhanga	-	25	-	298	935
12.	Deoghhar	-	8	1	136	551
13.	Dhanbad	-	-	5	119	224
14.	Dumka	-	16	1	246	846
15.	East Champaran	-	33	1	371	170
16.	East Singhbhum	-	6	1	153	645
17.	Garhwa	-	5	-	78	655
18.	Gaya	-	28	-	337	2900

S. No.	Name of district	Head post Office	Departmental Sub. post office	Extra departmental/sub post office	Extra departmental branch post office	No. of village without post office.
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.
19.	Giridih	-	14	-	166	2183
20.	Godda	-	4	-	138	2281
21.	Gopalganj	-	14	-	178	2194
22.	Gumla	-	11	-	204	963
23.	Hazribagh	-	32	5	202	2673
24.	Jahanabad	-	17	3	146	949
25.	Jamui	-	9	-	132	1247
26.	Katihar	-	12	-	160	1277
27.	Khagaria	-	8	1	121	459
28.	Kishanganj	-	4	-	81	768

S. No.	Name of district	Head post Office	Departmental Sub. post office	Extra departmental sub post office	Extra departmental branch post office	No. of village without post office.
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.
29.	Lohardaga	-	2	3	78	452
30.	Madhepura	-	9	-	190	354
31.	Madhubani	-	29	1	386	641
32.	Munger	-	13	3	236	1879
33.	Muzzafarpur	-	33	13	336	1460
34.	Nalanda	-	16	4	291	732
35.	Nawada	-	18	1	175	981
36.	Palamau	-	17	1	233	986
37.	Patna	-	18	7	288	1735
38.	Purnea	-	9	-	162	935

S. No.	Name of district	Head post Office	Departmental Sub. post office	Extra departmental sub post office	Extra departmental branch post office	No. of village without post office.
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.
39.	Ranchi	-	17	5	294	1643
40.	Rohas	-	28	-	249	1811
41.	Saharsa	-	11	-	149	397
42.	Sahibganj	-	11	-	141	2888
43.	Samastipur	-	32	5	342	889
44.	Saran	1	42	3	319	1448
45.	Sitamarhi	-	18	1	268	745
46.	Siwan	-	28	-	263	1252
47.	Supaul	-	15	-	155	468
48.	Vaishali	-	24	4	212	398

S. No.	Name of district	Head post Office	Departmental Sub. post office	Extra departmental sub post office	Extra departmental branch post office	No. of village without post office.
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.
49.	West Champaran	-	16	1	25	1092
50.	West Singhbhum	-	15	1	168	2731
Total:-		1	792	107	10142	66657

Foreign Missions Unhappy with MTNL

2133. SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR
SHASTRI:
KUMARI SUSHILA TIRIYA:
SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY:

Will the Minister of
COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Foreign missions unhappy with MTNL" appearing in the "Pioneer" dated July 14, 1994;

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Government to remove the hardships being faced by the foreign missions in Delhi or elsewhere in the country relating to their communication system?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI
SUKH RAM): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) It was a general complaint about the telephone services.

(c) On receipt of such complaints the MOS (C) himself took a review meeting with the MTNL management and took decisions to reduce congestion on routes and ensure speedy repair of faulty services. Special attention is also being paid to the communications systems of foreign missions.

Major Ports

2134. SHRI KASHIRAM RANA: Will
the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be

pleased to state:

(a) the total volume of traffic at major ports during the last three years, port-wise;

(b) the total revenue earned annually by these ports during the above period, port-wise; and

(c) the schemes proposed to be undertaken for the improvement of major ports in Gujarat?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT
(SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). A statement showing the total volume of cargo traffic handled at various Major Ports during the last three years and operating, financial and miscellaneous income earned by them during this period is enclosed.

(c) Following major schemes have been undertaken for the improvement of Kandla Port in Gujarat:-

- i) Construction of Eighth Cargo Berth.
- ii) Procurement of 19 Ton B.P. Tug.
- iii) Procurement of additional Wharf Cranes.
- iv) Development of Container Handling Facilities.
- v) Construction of Additional Oil Jetty at Kandla Port.
- vi) Construction of Multi-purpose berth at Vadinar.

STATEMENT

	Bombay	Calcutta	Cochin	J.L. Nehru	Kandla	Madras
1	2	3	4	5	6	

DETAILS OF VOLUME OF CARGO TRAFFIC HANDLED AT VARIOUS MAJOR PORTS.

1991-92	27.21	16.00	7.48	2.80	21.00	25.05
1992-93	29.02	18.34	7.98	3.01	22.91	25.33
1993-94*	30.74	18.50	7.62	3.39	24.50	26.54

DETAILS OF OPERATING, FINANCIAL AND MISCELLANEOUS INCOME EARNED BY VARIOUS MAJOR PORTS.

1. Operating Income

1992-92	255.64	256.62	58.28	73.11	72.05	160.65
1992-93	364.51	307.21	66.35	85.67	86.91	189.15
1993-94*	401.38	381.72	72.32	100.00	99.43	210.43

Bombay	Calcutta	Cochin	J.L.	Kandla Nehru	Madras	
	1	2	3	4	5	6
2. Finance & Miscellaneous Income						
1992-92	61.54	45.52	6.70	11.83	23.48	38.82
1992-93	72.71	28.25	14.21	17.83	32.57	67.49
1993-94*	76.89	27.87	9.52	21.00	37.57	53.20
*Provisional.						

	New Mangalore	Mormugao	Paradip	Tuticorin	Vizag.
	7	8	9	10	11
	(In Million Tonnes)				
1991-92	8.27	15.10	7.30	5.87	21.52
1992-93	7.09	16.31	7.61	6.21	22.77
1993-94*	8.63	18.72	8.33	6.70	25.59
DETAILS OF OPERATING, FINANCIAL AND MISCELLANEOUS INCOME EARNED BY VARIOUS MAJOR PORTS.					
1. Operating Income	(Rs. in Crores)				
1992-92	32.09	48.37	79.56	27.06	134.93
1992-93	34.87	64.02	88.38	34.43	163.86
1993-94*	37.98	78.91	93.10	33.40	175.00

	New Mangalore	Mormugao	Pradip	Tuticorin	Vizsg.
	7	8	9	10	11
2. Finance & Miscellaneous Income					
1992-92	4.58	11.57	19.36	3.41	22.20
1992-93	7.10	15.10	14.65	5.46	25.70
1993-94*	7.22	14.33	14.40	6.00	24.50

*Provisional.

Passport of Expired Persons

2135. SHRIMATI CHANDRA PRABHA URS: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of passports issued by Bangalore Passport Office from January 1, 1994 till april 30, 1994;

(b) the number of passport holders who had expired out of the total number of passports issued during the period;

(c) whether there is any provision to make it mandatory for the legal heir of the passport holder to surrender the passport of the deceased;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor and the steps proposed to be taken by the Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) the number of passports issued by Passport Office, Bangalore from 1.1.94 to 30.4.94 is 16524.

(b) Passport Offices do not maintain this information.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Any misuse of a passport issued

to another person, whether living or expired, is an offence under Section 12 (1) (d) of the Passports Act, 1967 and is punishable by an imprisonment of 2 years or with fine which may extend up to Rs.5,000/-

In view of the above, the Government does not consider it necessary to have a separate provision mandating the legal heirs of the expired person to surrender that passport.

[Translation]

State Road Transport Undertakings

2136. SHRI LALL BABU RAI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the assistance given by the Union Government to the State Road Transport Undertakings of different States under various heads during each of the last three years; and

(b) the details of the quarterly review of the performance of these undertakings during the last two years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Presently, non-refundable capital loan assistance bearing concessional rate of interest is given by the Central Government to the State Road Transport Corporations set up under the Road Transport Corporations Act, 1950 only. The details are as under:-

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl.No.	Name of SRTCs	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94
1.	Gujarat	372.5	113.0	198

Sl.No.	Name of SRTC's	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94
2.	Karnataka	400.0	-	-
3.	Madhya Pradesh	156.8	632.0	241.0
4.	Rajasthan	70.7	405.0	-
5.	D.T.C.	1175.0*	2000.0*	12.0*

(b) Such periodical details are not obtained from the State Road Transport Undertakings by the Central Government.

* This includes 50% refundable loan.

Reserved Posts For SCs/STs

2137. SHRI VILASRAO NAGNATHRAO GUNDEWAR: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of posts reserved for SC/ST and for others in the Ministry and its Subordinate offices;

(b) the number of these posts lying vacant;

(c) since when these posts are lying vacant and the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps being taken/or to be taken to fill them up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Cost of Power Production

2138. SHRI HARISH NARAYAN PRABHU ZANTYE: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the average cost of power production by NTPC, NHPC and State Electricity Boards per unit over last three Years—State—Wise;

(b) the subsidy element involved State-wise and total subsidy cost;

(c) the power tariff per unit State-wise;

(d) number of tariff revisions effected during last three years with percentage increase in tariff—State-wise;

(e) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) The per unit tariff charged by NHPC and the average cost of generation by the State Electricity Boards are given in the attached I, II and III respectively.

(b) The average cost of generation and supply and the average realisation from all categories of consumers for sale of power by the State Electricity Boards, together with the subsidy element involved, State-wise, is given in the attached statement-IV.

(c) and (d). The details regarding revision of tariff by the State Electricity Boards during the last three years, with percentage increases, are given in the attached

Statement-V.

(e) and (f). The tariff for sale of electricity to the different categories of consumers is decided by the State Electricity Boards in consultation with the State Governments concerned. The Power Minister's Conference held in January, 1993, has adopted an action Plan which provides for, inter alia rationalisation of tariff structure and fixation of minimum agricultural tariff at 50 paise/KWH.

STATEMENT-I

Project	N.H.P.C. TARIFFS (PROVISIONAL) Paise/Kwh			
	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94	
1	2	3	4	
Baira-Suli	36.65	38.28	47.55	
Loktak	56.90	60.74	64.83	
Salal-I	49.30	54.66	59.77	
Salal-II	-	-	73.43	
Tanakpur	-	134.21	168.54	

STATEMENT-II

N.T.P.C. TARIFFS

	1.4.92	1.4.93	1.4.94
	1	2	3
COAL			
1. Singrauli	37.50 (*)	62.31	62.31
2. Rihand	37.50 (*)	104.46	104.46
3. FGUPP	133.56	133.56	133.56
4. NCPP	-NA-	167.20	167.20
5. Korba	34.50 (*)	47.64	47.64
6. Vindhuachal	34.50 (*)	83.51	83.51
7. Ramagundam	43.0 (*)	70.79	70.79
8. Farakka	54.48 (*)	79.30	79.30

(Firoz Gandhi
Unachar Power Pre)
National Capital
Reg. Power Proj.
Dadri

	1.4.92	1.4.93	1.4.94
	1	2	3
GAS			
1. Anta	99.68	99.68	
2. Auraiya	103.72	103.72	103.72
3. Dadri (G)	-NA-	132.75	132.75
4. Kawas	-NA-	150.27	136.37
			(Reduction due Combined cycle)

Note 1. (*) Provisional. Triff for this period is yet to be settled with SEBs as there are not covered by GOI notification.

2. All other tariffs are two part tariff having separated fixed and variable charges. The above figures are at 6000 Hes.

3. Fuel Price adjustment (FPA) as applicable from month to month would be additionally applicable.

STATEMENT-III

COST OF POOLED GENERATION

S.No	Name of the SEBs	Paise/Kwh.			
		1990-91	1991-92	1992-93	
1	2	3	4	5	
1.	Andhra Pradesh	30.98	38.27	45.46	
2.	Bihar	121.19	137.72	134.14	
3.	Gujrat	70.63	86.59	86.59	
4.	Haryana	48.49	58.39	69.09	
5.	Himachal Pradesh	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	
6.	Karnataka	19.39	24.05	13.31	
7.	Kerala	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	
8.	Madhya Pradesh	46.74	61.31	73.00	
9.	Maharashtra	58.02	61.94	77.58	

S.No	Name of the SEBs	1990-91	1991-92	1992-93
1	2	3	4	5
10.	Orissa	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
11.	Punjab	48.51	45.03	60.78
12.	Rajasthan	109.34	109.34	109.34
13.	Tamil Nadu	74.80	67.71	84.91
14.	Uttar Pradesh	56.02	65.69	80.12
15.	West Bengal	76.25	81.23	95.82
16.	Meghalaya	N.A.	24.82	N.A.
17.	Assam	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
Total SEBs		57.28	61.72	74.68

Note: N.A.= Not Available.

STATEMENT-IV

AVERAGE COST OF SUPPLY AND AVERAGE REALISATION DURING 1992-93.

	Average cost of supply	(ps/ kwh)	Average Realisation All Categories	Gap/ Subsidy
4	1	2	3	
1. Andhra Pradesh	105.56	97.33	8.23	
2. Bihar	188.04	122.22	65.82	
3. Gujrat	160.36	119.01	41.35	
4. Haryana	139.62	82.05	57.56	
5. Himachal Pradesh	109.99	108.29	1.71	
6. Karnataka	98.77	97.96	0.81	
7. Kerala	83.00	81.22	1.77	
8. Madhya Pradesh	157.99	132.10	25.89	

	Average cost of supply	(ps/ kwh)	Average Realisation All Categories	Gap/ Subsidy
1	2	3	4	
9. Maharashtra	148.06	141.84	6.22	
10. Orissa	104.99	103.26	1.73	
11. Punjab	126.91	78.83	48.09	
12. Rajasthan	141.60	113.25	28.35	
13. Tamil Nadu	133.27	108.26	25.01	
14. Uttar Pradesh	155.47	113.14	42.34	
15. West Bengal	163.97	119.88	44.09	
16. Assam	255.95	120.29	135.65	
17. Meghalaya	119.49	89.50	29.99	
Total	139.02	112.28	26.74	

STATEMENT-V

TARIFF REVISION IMPACT
(P/KWH)

(P/KWH)								
SEBS	Date of Revision	Domestic	Commercial	Industrial	Public Lighting	Agricultural	Average Real	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
1. Andhra Pradesh	1.12.92	Triff before rev. Revised tariff % age increase	86.00 107.00 24.42	165.00 200.00 21.21	186.59 213.97 14.67	73.00 80.00 9.59	12.12 10.45 13.78	104.98 120.21 14.51
2. Bihar	1.7.93	Triff before rev. Revised tariff % age increase	106.00 109.80 3.58	133.17 158.90 19.32	184.58 215.47 16.74	91.59 140.00 52.86	9.00 60.00 566.67	119.72 156.47 30.70
3. Gujarat	21.5.93	Triff before rev. Revised tariff % age increase	91.16 131.67 0.00	177.40 39.61 19.74	186.08 129.51 11.60	131.67 0.00	15.40 157.21	111.00 16.68
4. Haryana	5.6.92	Triff before rev. Revised tariff	69.00 76.75	133.00 149.00	150.09 162.18	98.00 109.00	25.00 42.00	69.40 92.30

Sl. No.	Date of Revision	Domestic Revision	Commercial	Industrial	Public	Agricul Lighting	Average tural	Real	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8		
5.	Himachal Pradesh	1.8.92	% age increase	11.23	12.03	8.06	11.22	68.00	33.00
			Triff before rev.	54.00	120.00	89.47	60.00	33.00	74.83
			Revised tariff	54.00	130.00	97.46	70.00	33.00	86.58
			% age increase	0.00	8.33	8.93	16.67	0.00	15.70
6.	Karnataka	1.8.93	Triff before rev.	106.50	283.60	171.89	59.82	0.11	99.79
			Revised tariff	106.45	192.40	193.34	94.33	0.11	109.38
			% age increase	0.05	32.16	12.48	57.69	0.00	9.61
7.	Kerala	1.6.93	Triff before rev.	65.80	144.29	89.64	187.19	29.42	83.11
			Revised tariff	51.00	193.00	98.89	220.00	29.33	89.20
			% age increase	22.49	85.06	10.32	17.53	0.31	7.33
8.	Madhya Pradesh	1.10.92	Triff before rev.	31.47	132.79	147.31	17.20	16.03	96.87
			Revised tariff	47.80	182.49	184.01	5.34	29.08	117.59
			% age increase	51.89	37.43	24.91	7.25	81.41	21.39
9.	Mhara- shtra	1.2.93	Triff before rev.	70.02	152.04	148.32	77.00	15.00	107.29
			Revised tariff	82.99	182.99	154.00	90.00	15.00	129.32
			% age increase	18.52	20.36	3.83	16.88	0.00	20.53

SEBS	Date of Revision	Domestic	Commercial	Industrial	Public Lighting	Agricultural	Average Real	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
10. Orissa	7.9.93	Tariff before rev. Revised tariff % age increase	48.47 N.A. N.A.	87.29 N.A. N.A.	72.46 N.A. N.A.	48.95 N.A. N.A.	34.00 N.A. N.A.	Information awaited
11. Punjab	23.10.93	Tariff before rev. Revised tariff %age increase	92.44 115.94 25.42	170.01 185.79 9.28	147.92 155.92 5.41	135.92 143.92 5.89	12.21 24.42 100.00	79.36 91.08 14.77
12. Rajasthan	1.9.92	Tariff before rev. revised tariff % age increase	68.05 75.00 10.21	115.98 120.00 3.47	120.07 125.00 4.11	77.00 80.00 3.90	36.55 36.55 0.00	135.00
13. Tamil-nadu	1.3.93.	Tariff before rev. revised tariff % age increase	78.98 81.72 3.72	187.29 226.00 20.67	169.18 199.05 17.66	112.91 127.00 12.48	0.00 0.00 0.00	108.71 125.27 15.23
14. Uttar-Pradessh	18.192	Tariff before rev. revised tariff % age increase	81.95 97.07 18.45	112.37 155.99 38.82	133.97 179.09 33.68	95.00 135.00 42.11	26.30 35.68 35.67	80.86 108.36 34.01

SEBS	Date of Revision	Domestic	Commercial	Industrial	Public Lighting	Agricultural	Average Real	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
15. West-Bengal	26.9.93	Tariff before rev. revised tariff % age increase	75.00 75.27 0.36	126.01 137.81 9.36	162.28 187.78 15.71	64.42 70.86 10.00	19.23 20.55 6.86	120.14 131.84 9.74
16. Assam	1.6.93	Tariff before rev. revised tariff % age increase	60.00 80.00 33.33	116.00 169.75 46.34	92.52 141.09 52.50	100.00 150.00 50.00	50.00 76.00 52.00	information awaited
17. Meghalaya	1.6.92	Tariff before rev. revised tariff % age increase	52.08 69.00 32.49	81.60 125.00 53.19	66.00 120.16 82.06	69.60 125.00 79.60	25.20 50.00 98.41	64.69 96.99 48.50
18. DESU	1.10.93	Tariff before rev. revised tariff % age increase	70.08 103.69 47.96	173.39 268.94 55.11	158.58 237.97 50.06	137.00 190.00 38.69	20.00 50.00 150.00	116.2 16.1 48.1
19. PANAJI-(GOA)	1.11.91	Tariff before rev. revised tariff % age increase	68.09 78.00 14.55	114.65 131.00 14.26	114.58 125.09 9.17	64.08 80.00 24.84	83.44 84.00 0.67	

Funding of Petroleum Sector Projects

2139. SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHY:
SHRI BOLLA BULLI
RAMAIAH:
SHRI D. VENKATESWARA
RAO:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND
NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken
a decision for funding petroleum sector
projects; and

(b) if so, the details of the modalities
worked-out in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND
NATURAL GAS (CAP. SATISH KUMAR
SHARMA)

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Oil and Gas Plants in Gujarat

2140. SHRI DILEEPBHAI
SANGHANI:
SHRI HARIN PATHAK:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM
AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of oil and gas projects in
Gujarat State;

(b) the details of production by these projects
during each of the last two years and the
details of target fixed for 1994-95;

(c) whether any agreement with any foreign
companies has been signed for starting
projects for increasing production of gas and
oil in Gujarat;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the time by which the work on these
projects is likely to commence; and

(f) the estimate increase in oil production
during 1994-95 as compared to each of the
previous three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND
NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR
SHARMA) : (a) and (b). One refinery, 6
bottling plants and one LPG recovery plant
are functioning in Gujarat. The details of
production of these plants during the last two
years, and 1994-95 (BE) are as follows:-

(in TMPTA provisional)

	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95(B.E)
Gujarat Refinery	9778	9434	9650
LPG recovery plant.	5.32	39.88	26.4

The bottling capacity of LPG bottling plants located in Gujarat is 262 TMPTA. This would remain the same during 1994-95.

(c) to (e). Under the fourth Round of exploratory Bidding, Government of India have approved award of contract for Block GK-ON-90/2 in Gujarat Kutch onshore basin with a consortium of M/S. Pan Energy Resources of USA, Coplex Resources Ltd.

of Australia, Pan Pacific petroleum NL of Australia and Trans Asia Consultants of India. Government of India has also approved finalisation of award of contracts for development of 12 small sized oil/gas fields of Gujarat as per details given below:

<i>Name of company/consortium</i>	<i>Field</i>
1. Gujarat State Petrochemicals Corpn. Ltd., (GSPCL), Ahmedabad.	Hazira, Cambay, Bhandut Matar, Sabarmati.
2. Selan Exploration Technology Ltd., New Delhi.	Indrora Bakrol, Lohar.
3. Larsen & Tubro BBI-Joshi Technologies, USA,	Dholka Wavel
4. Interlink Geofizika Baroda.	Baola.
5 .HOEC Baroda-Petrodyne, USA-GSPCIL, Ahmedabad.	Asjol.

Work will commence as soon as Contracts are finalised.

(f) The target of crude oil production during 1994-95 is 32.299 million tonnes. The

production during the last three years was as follows:

1991-92	30.35 Million Tonnes
1992-93	26.95 Million Tonnes
1993-94	27.02 Million Tonnes

Prawn Processing

2141. SHRIJITENDRANATHDAS:
Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of prawn processing industries under public sector and private sector;

(b) the foreign exchange earned by the export of prawn during the last three years, year-wise;

(c) whether the Government propose to provide more incentives to the prawn processing sector so as to facilitate the setting up of new units; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Thevera Bridge, Cochin

2142. PROF. K.V. THOMAS: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the date by which the traffic through Thevera Bridge in Cochin Port is likely to be opened for public;

(b) the progress made in connecting Thevera bridge to Cochin bye-pass;

(c) whether there is any proposal to connect Thevera bridge to Emakulam town also; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Traffic through Thevera Bridge in Cochin Port is likely to be opened for public on completion of Phase-II of NH - 47A by the end of 1996.

(b) 12%.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Ban on LPG Connections for Commercial Use

2143. SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state the

steps proposed to be taken by the Government to stop use of cooking gas for professional purposes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): There is no proposal to stop use of LPG by authorised industrial and commercial consumers. However, use of LPG is banned for automotive purposes or for any purpose ancillary thereto.

[Translation]

Telephone No. '198'

2144. SHRI MAHESH KANODIA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the service of telephone number '198' for registering complaints had deteriorated in various telephone exchanges after installation of new telephones between January to June 1994;

(b) if so, the measures being taken to improve the situation; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to ensure that such complaints are attended to without delay and the consumers do not face unnecessary difficulties?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Does not arise. However, the Management Information Service parliament with respect to '198' service are being regularly monitored and based on the same suitable remedial measures are taken, as

and when found necessary.

[English]

**Telephone Connection from
Discretionary Quota**

2145. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA:
Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be
pleased to state:

(a) whether any criteria have been
adopted regarding allotment of telephone
connections from Minister's discretionary
quota;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of telephones released
from Minister's discretionary quota during
1994 for the city of Chandigarh and
respectively?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI
SUKHRAM): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Telephone
connections are sanctioned by Minister of
State (Communications) on out of turn basis
on an objective assessment of genuine and
urgent needs of subscribers which along with
others includes medical ground also.

(c) 175 and 1830 telephone connections
have been sanctioned for the city of
Chandigarh and Delhi respectively from
01.01.1994 to 31.07. 1994.

Oil Scheme and Projects in U.P.

2146. SHRI ARJUN SINGH YADAV:
Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND
NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the member of various oil schemes
and projects in U.P. lying pending with the
Union Government;

(b) the reasons for the delay; and

(c) the time by which these projects and
schemes are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND
NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR
SHARMA): (a) to (c). No such projects is
pending consideration in the Ministry of
Petroleum & Natural Gas.

[Translation]

**Persecution of Indian Diplomats
Abroad**

2147. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR
GANGWAR: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL
AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are
aware of the incidents of persecution of
Indian diplomats posted abroad;

(b) if so, the number of such incidents
taken place during the last three years; and

(c) the preventive steps taken by the
Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI
R.L. BHATIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) 197

(c) Under the Vienna Convention on
Diplomatic Relations of 1961 and Vienna
Convention on Consular Relations of 1963,
the responsibility for the protection of
privileges and immunities of diplomats/
consular officials is of the host country. Any
incident of violation of Vienna Convention is
brought to the notice of the host country and
they are reminded of their responsibility to

protect the privileges and immunities of our diplomats abroad. In case of repeated violations, the matter is also taken up at high level bilateral meetings.

[English]

Revival of Sick Deep Sea Fishing Industry

2148. SHRI ANNA JOSHI: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have considered the Murari Committee report on the deep sea fishing industry;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(c) the time by when the report is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) to (c). The Technical Committee on the deep sea fishing industry in India has submitted its report and action for implementations of the committee has been initiated at inter-ministerial level.

Telephone, Post and Telegraph Services in Gujarat

2149. SHRI SHANKERSINH

VAGHELA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to improve the Telephone, Posts and Telegraph services in Gujarat State;

(b) whether the revenue earned by the Government from the State during 1992-93 and 1993-94 so far has been higher in comparison to other States;

(c) if so, the amount spent on these services during the above period in the State;

(d) to what extent these services are likely to be improved during 1994-95 in the State;

(e) whether all the villages will be provided with all the above three services; and

(f) if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): DEPTT. OF TELECOM. (a) Yes Sir.

(b) The reply is given in the Statement enclosed.

(c) The amount spent on Telecom services in Gujarat State for operation and maintenance is Rs. 130.22 crore for 1992-93 and Rs. 152.67 crore for 1993-94.

(d) Measures proposed are given below

Telegraph Services

It is proposed to commission the following equipments:

1.	Electronic key Board Concentrators	-	10
2.	Electronic key Boards	-	80
3.	Teleprinter Concentrators	-	04

- | | | |
|----|--------------------------------------|----|
| 4. | Formatted Terminals | 64 |
| 5. | SFMSS-128 at Ahmedabad (SFMSS) | 64 |
| | Working at present will be upgraded) | |
| 6. | SFMS - 32 at Rajkot | |

Telecom Services

The following measures are proposed :

1. All MAX-III and some of life expired MAX-II & MAX-I Exchanges totalling 35200 lines are proposed to be replaced by electronic exchanges.
2. Opening of 75 new exchanges
3. Addition of 2,38,200 lines in net equipped capacity.
4. Provision of 1,50,000 new telephone connections.
5. Extension of STD service to 200 more stations. All the taluk headquarters without STD are proposed to be provided with STD during 1994-95.
6. Telephone service will be provided to remaining 4346 gram panchayat villages. With this all the 13421 gram panchayat villages will be provided with telephone facility.

(e) and (f). As on 31-3-94, 9075 gram panchayat villages out of a total of 13421 have been provided with telephone facility. Remaining 4346 gram panchayat villages are planned to be provided with telephone facility during 1994-95. All the remaining

villages in Gujarat are likely to be provided with telephone facility by the end of 8th Plan.

Postal

(a) Measures to improve postal facilities in Gujarat are being regularly taken in terms of expanding the existing postal network, providing more departmental buildings, upgrading the technology of equipments used in post and mail offices, provision of speedier delivery of mails through the Speed Post network, etc.

(b) and (c). In 1992-93 and 1993-94, the Circle earned revenue of Rs. 66.51 crores and Rs. 65.057 crores respectively. The amount incurred in running the service during the same period comes to Rs. 100.3 and Rs. 108.29 crores respectively.

While the postal revenue in the State of Gujarat for the year 1992-93 and 1993-94 are higher than some of other States, no real comparison can be made because the revenue depends on the area of the State, its population, the state of industrial agricultural development, the number of post offices and the nature of postal business in that area.

(d) to (f). Government has decided to set up during 1994-95 new post offices subject to fulfilment of prescribed norms and availability of resources as per the details given below :-

Branch Post Offices

Total Departmental Sub Offices

Tribal Areas	:	1
Other Areas	:	3

Tribal Areas	:	3
Other Areas	:	7

Branch Post Offices

Total Departmental Sub Offices

Total

4

Total

:

10

No Time frame can be given within which the Postal facility will be extended in all villages.

STATEMENT

Revenue earned by Gujarat Telecom. Circle during 1992-93 and 1993-94 (upto March (Suppl.), 1994) and other Circles is as under:-

(In Crores of Rs.)

Sl.No	Name of Circle	1992-93	1993-94 (Upto March Supplementary '94)
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra	365.43	464.19
2.	Assam	45.52	66.26
3.	Bihar	110.74	125.28
4.	Gujarat	410.26	578.62
5.	Haryana	82.89	116.77
6.	Himachal Pradesh	20.30	27.40
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	20.32	22.64
8.	Karnataka	356.40	499.91

Sl.No	Name of Circle	1992-93	1993-94 (Upto March Supplementary '94)
1	2	3	4
9.	Kerala	206.85	307.25
10.	Madhya Pradesh	195.57	269.38
11.	Maharashtra	386.61	532.65
12.	North East	21.96	33.92
13.	Punjab	214.56	276.12
14.	Orissa	54.94	78.59
15.	Rajasthan	160.14	244.81
16.	Tamil Nadu	264.70	368.46
17.	Uttar Pradesh	276.40	373.49
18.	West Bengal	41.91	44.97
19.	Calcutta Distt.	257.90	379.63
20.	Madras District.	267.20	416.09

Kerosene for PDS

2150. SHRI JAGMEET SINGH BRAR : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :-

a) whether per capita allocation of kerosene for Public Distribution System is uniform throughout the country;

(b) whether the tribal population of a State is also taken into account while allocating kerosene to the States; and

(c) if so, the average per capita allocation of kerosene ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Average per capita consumption kerosene in the country during 1993-94 as 10.14 Kg./annum.

Rural Post Offices in Gujarat and Andhra Pradesh

2151. DR. AMRITLAL KALIDAS PATEL :

DR. K. V. R. CHOWDARY :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of rural post offices at present in Gujarat and Andhra Pradesh and the number out of them without departmental building separately;

(b) whether the Government have received any complaints regarding improper working of these post offices; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by the Government to improve the Postal Services in rural areas of these States?

THE MINISTER STATE OF THE

MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) At present, the following number of post offices are functioning in rural areas of Gujarat and Andhra Pradesh :-

Gujarat - 8114

Andhra Pradesh - 14822

8061 post offices in Gujarat and 14744 in Andhra Pradesh are without departmental buildings. The Department does not provide building for extra departmental post offices.

(b) There has been no complaint about their functioning.

(c) Does not arise in view of (b) above.

Accommodation to Posts and Telecom Employees

[Translation]

2152. SHRI HARI KEWAL PRASAD : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have not been able to provide accommodation to all the employees of the Post and Telecom departments;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the number of Post and Telecom employees at present in Delhi;

(d) the number of the employees out of them allotted Government accommodation, department-wise and category-wise; and

(e) the time by which the remaining employees are likely to be allotted Government accommodation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) and (b). Department of

Posts & Telecom
(c) Department of Posts

Yes, Sir. It has not been possible to provide accommodation to all the employees on account of lack of resources. Residential quarters are constructed as a part of 5 year Plan activity and funds are allotted on a year to year basis for the construction of staff quarters. Hence the number of staff quarters constructed depends on the availability of funds and other resources like land etc.

12801

Department of Telecom

Northern Telecom Region	-	5841
MTNL New Delhi	-	27115

(d) The information is as follows :

Department of Posts						
Type of Quarters-	I	II	III	IV	V	Total
	345	766	174	24	6	1315

Department of Telecom
Staff Quarters

Unit.....	Type					Total
	I	II	III	IV	V	
NTR	280	366	154	56	48	904
MTNL	322	853	158	147	48	1528

(e) Department of Posts & Telecom

into electronic ones so far; and

No time-frame can be given for this as the number of staff quarters constructed every year depends on the availability of resources like land, funds, etc.

(b) the time by which these are likely to be converted into electronic exchanges?

Conversion of Telephone Exchanges in U.P.

[English]

2153. DR. SAKSHIJI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the names of such telephone exchanges in Uttar Pradesh not yet converted

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKHARAM) : (a) The list of such telephone exchanges is given in the enclosed Statement-I

(b) (i) All the MAX-II and MAX-III Strowger exchanges are proposed to be replaced by electronic exchanges during 1995-96 subject to the availability of required funds and the equipment.

(ii) MAX-I exchanges are proposed to be replaced during 1994-95 and 1995-96 as given in the enclosed Statement-II.

(iii) List of MAX-I exchanges and X-Bar exchanges proposed to be replaced on expiry of life are given in the enclosed Statement-III.

The names of telephone exchanges in Uttar Pradesh not yet converted into electronic exchanges.

A. Max-I Exchanges

1. Aligarh
2. Agra
3. Bareilly
4. Dehradun
5. Meerut (Boundry Road)
6. Moradabad
7. Muzaffarnagar
8. Shaharnapur, Unit-I (Gurdwara Road)
9. Shaharanpur, Unit-II
10. Sambhal (Moradabad)
11. Varanasi (Benilabagh)
12. Varanasi, Cantt.
13. Kanpur (Krishna Nagar)

B.X-BAR Exchanges

14. Allahabad (Civil Lines)
15. Hathras (Aligarh)
16. Kanpur (Benajhabar)
17. Kanpur (Lajpat Nagar)
18. Lucknow (Alambagh)

19. Lucknow (Bhadown)
20. Lucknow (Mahanagar)
21. Meerut
22. Agra (Sanjay Place)

C-MAX-II Exchanges

1. Anpara (Sonebhadra)
2. Auraiya (Etawah)
3. Balarnpur (Gonda)
4. Chandpur (Bijnore)
5. Clement Town (Dehradun)
6. Lakhimpur
7. Mugalsarai (Varanasi)
8. Obro (Mirzapur)
9. Polin Kolan (Lakhimpur)
10. Prem Nagar (Dehradun)
11. Ram Nagar Industrial Area (Varanasi)
12. Shikohabad (Mainpuri)
13. Sitapur

D-Max III Exchanges

1. Akbarabad (Rampur)
2. Afjalgarh (Bijnore)
3. Akrobad (Aligarh)
4. Amapur (Etah)
5. Ameria (Pilibhit)
6. Amrauli (Aligarh)
7. Anjan Sohidi (Azamgarh)

- | | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 8. Anafpur (Badaun) | 34. Dunidam (Pilibhit) |
| 9. Bailparao (Nainital) | 35. Fauji Colony (Nainital) |
| 10. Bilram (Etah) | 36. Gangapur (Varanasi) |
| 11. Bara (Nainital) | 37. Congiri (Aligarh) |
| 12. Barahpur (Bijnore) | 38. Ganj (Bijnore) |
| 13. Bosai Baban (Aligarh) | 39. Gauri Phanta (Lakhimpur) |
| 14. Basta (Bijnore) | 40. Gopamau (Hardoi) |
| 15. Begmabad (Rampur) | 41. Gorai (Aligarh) |
| 16. Baswan (Aligarh) | 42. Guhawar (Bijnore) |
| 17. Bhajama Nagata (Nainital) | 43. Gularbhoj (Nainital) |
| 18. Bhargain (Etah) | 44. Haripura Harsan (Nainital) |
| 19. Bhuriyan (Bareilly) | 45. Harpal Pur (Hardoi) |
| 20. Bijauli (Aligarh) | 46. Heempur (Bijnore) |
| 21. Bosena (Rampur) | 47. Jenenabad (Pilibhit) |
| 22. Bundhanni (Aligarh) | 48. Jaithara (Etah) |
| 23. Chandak (Bijnore) | 49. Jaliipur (Bijnore) |
| 24. Chandan Chauki (Lakhimpur) | 50. Kachore (Aligarh) |
| 25. Chandauni (Aligarh) | 51. Kajmabad (Aligarh) |
| 26. Chandapa (Aligarh) | 52. Kanalichina (Almora) |
| 27. Chittaura (Behraich) | 53. Kanth (Sahajhanpur) |
| 28. Deghat (Almora) | 54. Kauriaganj (Aligarh) |
| 29. Dehgawan (Badaun) | 55. Kemari (Rampur) |
| 30. Devidhura (Almora) | 56. Khaira (Mathura) |
| 31. Dhamora (Rampur) | 57. Khandoli (Agra) |
| 32. Dineshpur (Nainital) | 58. Khod Singhan (Rampur) |
| 33. Dumari (Deoria) | 59. Khurrampur (Aligarh) |

- | | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 60. Kukra (Lakhimpur) | 85. Pilwan (Etah) |
| 61. Kunwargaon (Badaun) | 86. Pipalia (Etah) |
| 62. Madhao Tanda (Pilibhit) | 87. Pisowa (Aligarh) |
| 63. Madkot (Almora) | 88. Prag Form (Nainital) |
| 64. Mandawali (Bijnore) | 89. Pulto (Almora) |
| 65. Manmaho (Aligarh) | 90. QuadirChowk (badaun) |
| 66. Manpur (Hardoi) | 91. Rampur (Bijnore) |
| 67. Masvasi (Rampur) | 92. Rithora (Bareilly) |
| 68. Mirchani (Etah) | 93. Rosa (Shahjahanpur) |
| 69. Mirzapur (Shahjahanpur) | 94. Rudain (Badaun) |
| 70. Mohan (Nainital) | 95. Rudra Bilas (Nainital) |
| 71. Mudrapande (Rampur) | 96. Rupaidiha (Bahraich) |
| 72. Murihi Ahiban (Shahjhanpur) | 97. Sakeet (Etah) |
| 73. Machani (Almora) | 98. Salempur (Aligarh) |
| 74. Nagulsoti (Bijnore) | 99. Simrachauraha (Hardoi) |
| 75. Nandgaon (Mathura) | 100. Sahabad (Rampur) |
| 76. Narainkheri (Bijnore) | 101. Shergarh (Bareilly) |
| 77. Narainpur (Nainital) | 102. Solankinagar (Badaun) |
| 78. Nawabnagaar (Rampur) | 103. Syaldesh (Almora) |
| 79. Pachon (Aligarh) | 104. Tanda (Rampur) |
| 80. Padali (Bijnore) | 105. Randa (Nainital) |
| 81. Paigaon (Mathura) | 106. Tappal (Aligarh) |
| 82. Pali (Hardoi) | 107. Thuna (Dariyavganj (Etah) |
| 83. Patwal (Rampur) | |
| 84. Bheena (Bijnore) | |

- | | |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| 108. Tosifigarh (Aligarh) | 112. Usawan (Badaun) |
| 109. Ugaiti (Badaun) | 113. Wajidpur (Aligarh) |
| 110. Uchagaon (Etah) | 114. Meerut SAX (Meerut) |
| 111. Ugait (Badaun) | 115. Bharasu (Uttarkashi) |

STATEMENT -II

List of MAX-I Exchanges Proposed to be Replaced during 1994-95 and 1995-96.

1994-95	1995-96
1. Agra (Strowger)	1. Vamasi (Baniabagh)
2. Kanpur (benajhabar) (X-Bar)	2. Bareilly
3. Allahabad (Civil Lines) (X-Bar)	3. Meerut (Boundary road)
	4. Aligarh
	5. Dehradun
	6. Saharanpur (Gurdwara road)
	7. Muzaffamagar
	8. Moradabad

STATEMENT-III

list of max-i exchanges proposed to be replaced in sub sequent years

Year when the life of the equipment expires

- | | |
|--------------------------------|------|
| 1. Saharanpur Unit II | 2007 |
| 2. Sambhal | 2018 |
| 3. Kanpur (Krishna Nagar) | 2011 |
| 4. Varanasi cantt. | 2011 |

Cross-Bar MAX-I Exchanges

- | | |
|-----------------------------|------|
| 1. Agra (Sanjay Place) | 2018 |
|-----------------------------|------|

Year when the life of the equipment expires

2.	Sambhal	2005
3.	Bhadawan (Lucknow)	2005
4.	Hathras (Aligarh)	2015
5.	Mahanagar (Lucknow)	2010
6.	Meerut	2005
7.	Lajpat Nagar (Kanpur)	2005

Wireless Technology

2154. SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the steps taken to induct wireless technology into the Telecommunication network;

(b) the amount required for the purpose;

(c) whether any foreign companies have offered to instal this technology in India; and

(d) if so, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Telecom Commission has approved the trial to be conducted at two places each for following two technologies :

(i) CDMA

(ii) CT2 Plus

(b) Approximate Rs. 15 Crore

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) (i) M/s QUALCOMM, USA;

(ii) M/s MOTOROLA, USA:

(iii) M/s MOTOROLA, SINGAPORE and

(iv) M/s Dassault Automatismes, ET Telecom., France.

Condition of Delhi Roads

2155. SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : SHRI SRIKANTA JENA :

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether any report has been submitted to the Government by the Central Road Research Institute with regard to the condition of Delhi roads;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof; and

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[Translation]

the allocated amount has been spent; and

Allocation of Funds to U.P. from C.R.F.

(c) the progress made in regard to the completion of these works?

2156. DR. P. R. GANGWAR: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the amount allocated to Uttar Pradesh for construction and maintenance of highways from Central Road Fund during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) the details of the highways on which

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (c) Funds under the Central Road Fund (CRF) are released for the construction and Development of State Roads approved under C.R.F. The amount released to Uttar Pradesh for the ongoing works under CRF during the last three years, year-wise are as under :-

Year	Amount released (Rs. in Lakh)
1991-92	-
1992-93	79.50
1993-94	100.00

The details of ongoing works for which the above amount has been released is given in the enclosed Statement. These being

State roads, the execution of these works as well as monitoring of progress and expenditure vests with the State Government concerned.

STATEMENT

LIST OF ON GOING- WORKS IN UTTAR PRADESH APPROVED UNDER CENTRAL ROAD FUND

S.No.	Name of work with Job No.	Amount sanctioned (Rs. in lakhs)
1	2	3
ROAD WORKS		
1.	Construction of Babatpur-Jamalpur road in District Varanasi (AL/UP/5N/PL)	32.21
2.	Construction of Faraukhabad Bypass in District Faraukhabad (AL/UP/5/IV/PL)	14.62
3.	Improvement Azamgarh-Varanasi road in District Azamgarh (AL/II/UP/PL)	38.00
4.	Construction of road upto Bakshi Ka Talab in District Lucknow (AL/13/UP/IV/PL)	54.66
5.	Construction of approaches for Bridges over river Kanhar and Satvahini in District Mirzapur (R/UP/61/VI/PL)	65.81
6.	Construction of Jeanpur-Amuwari Walidpur-Mohamdabad road in Distt. Azamgarh (AL/UP/13/VI/PL)	78.30

S.No.	Name of work with Job No.	Amount sanctioned (Rs. in lakhs)
1	2	3
7.	Improvement & Strengthening of Mohanlalganj -Gosaingunj road in Distt. Lucknow (AL/UP/6/88)	58.65
8.	Widening, Strengthening & Improvement of riding quality of important existing PWD roads of Amethi project area in District of Sultanpur & Raebareilly CRF/UP/39/007)	1965.90
9.	Strengthening of Alinagar Indara Majhware Madhuban road (Saheed Marg) in Distt. Mau-Revised Estimate (CRF/UP/88/027)	334.00
BRIDGE WORKS:-		
10.	Construction of bridge over river Kanhar on Dudhi-Wyndhamganj road in District Mirzapur. (R/UP/6/V/PL)	187.64

*(English)***LPG to Food Processing Industries**

2157. SHRI ARVIND TRIVEDI : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state the number of Food Processing units in Gujarat whom gas connections have been sanctioned during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS : (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA)

During the period from 1991-92 to 1993-94, LPG has been allotted to one food processing unit of Gujarat.

Post and Telegraph Offices in Uttar Pradesh*[Translation]*

2158. SHRI RAJVEER SINGH :
SHRI RAM PUJAN PATEL :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of post offices, category-wise and Telegraph offices opened in rural areas in Uttar Pradesh, particularly in Bareilly and Badaun districts during the last three years;

(b) the expenditure incurred thereon; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to provide speedy postal and telegraph services in rural areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Post Offices : 694 extra departmental branch post offices were

opened in Uttar Pradesh. Out of these, 14 and 8 were opened in Bareilly and Badaun districts respectively.

Telegraph Offices : No telegraph offices were opened in rural area in Uttar Pradesh including in Bareilly and Badaun districts during the last three years.

(b) Post Office : The expenditure incurred on opening of above post offices is Rs. 8.84 lakhs.

Telegraph Offices : Does not arise in view of (a) above.

(c) Post Offices : Post offices are being opened progressively to extend postal facilities in rural area within the overall Plan targets and allocations.

Telegraph Offices : Under the Modernisation Programme of telegraph network, it is planned to provide 550 Electronic Key Boards and 57 Electronic Key Board Concentrators in replacement of old morse telegraph working in order to speed up delivery of telegrams.

Investment Promoting Cell on Power

2159. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have any proposal to set up an investment promoting cell in order to ensure the involvement of private sector in the field of power generation and distribution;

(b) the details of Indian and foreign power companies likely to be included in the list of investors; and

(c) the comprehensive details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU) : (a) The Investment Promotion Cell was set up in 1991 itself when the private power policy was introduced, and has been functioning since to provide assistance to prospective investors.

(b) and (c) As on date proposals have

been received for setting up of 75 project in the private sector for a capacity addition of 32661 MW involving an investment of approx. Rs. 104151 crores by various domestic as well as foreign (including NRI and Joint Venture proposals) investors. Proposals have also been received for renovation and modernisation of one thermal power plant and distribution of two electrical circles in Orissa. The details of the proposals are given in the enclosed Statement.

STATEMENT

DETAILS OF EXPRESSION OF INTERESTS BY PRIVATE SECTOR COMPANIES

S.No.	Name of project/ State.	Foreign/ Indian	Capacity (MW)	Prov. Cost Estimate (Rs. Crs.)	Name of the Company
1	2	3	5	6	7
1. NEW POWER PROJECTS.					
1.	Jegurupadu GBPP/ (Godavari) Andhra Pradesh	Forgn. (NRI)	235.00 (Gas)	827.00	GVK Industries, USA
2.	Kakinada GBPP/ (Godavari) Andhra Pradesh	Forgn. (NRI)	208.00 (Gas)	748.43	Spectrum Power Generation Ltd.
3.	Visakhapatnam TPS/ Andhra Pradesh	Forgn. Indian JV	1000.00 (2x500) (Coal)	3817.60	Ashok Leyland & National Power (U.K.)

No.	Name of project/ State.	Foreign/ Indian	Capacity (MW)	Prov. Cost Estimate (Rs. Crs.)	Name of the Company
1	2	3	5	6	7
4.	Krishnapatnam TPS/		1000.00 (2x500) (Coal)	3500.00	Under bidding
5.	Ramagundam TPS/ Andhra Pradesh		500.00 (2x250)	1750.00	Under bidding
	Total: Andhra Pradesh		2943.00	12643.03	
6.	Kameng HEP/ Arunachal Pradesh	Indian/ Forgn.	600.00 (Hydel)	1800.00	InterCorp Industries Ltd. Snowy Mountains Engg (Australia)
7.	Kharsng GBPP/ Arunachal Pradesh	Forgn./ Indian JV	48.00 (Gas)	223.00	InterCorp Industries Ltd. Snowy Mountains Engg (Australia)
	Total: Arunachal		648.00	2023.00	
8.	Karbi Langpi HEP/ (Lower Barpani) Assam	Indian	100.00 (Hydel)	300.00	Bharat Hydrat Power Corp. / Subhash Projects & Mktg Ltd.

No.	Name of project/ State.	Foreign/ Indian	Capacity (MW)	Prov. Cost Estimate (Rs. Crs.)	Name of the Company
1	2	3	5	6	7
9.	Amguri GBPP/ Assam	Forgn.	360.00 (Gas) Industries.	1280.00	Northern Engineering Inc. USA/Agra
10.	Adamtilla Open Cycle/ Assam	Indian	15.00 (Gas)	52.50	DLF POWER COMPANY LTD.
11.	Bashkandi Open Cycle/ Assam	Indian	22.50 (Gas)	78.75	DLF POWER COMPANY LTD.
Total: Assam			497.50	1711.25	
12.	Chandil TPS/ Bihar	Indian	500.00 (2x250) (Coal)	1379.00	RPG Enterprises
Total: Bihar			500.00	1637.00	

No.	Name of project/ State.	Foreign/ Indian	Capacity (MW)	Prov. Cost Estimate (Rs. Crs.)	Name of the Company
1	2	3	5	6	7
13.	Bawana GBPP Delhi		800.00 (Gas)	2000.00	Bid Under Evaluation.
	Total: Delhi		800.00	2000.00	
14.	Paguthan GBPP/ Gujarat	Forgn./ Indian JV	654.70 (Gas)	2178.14	Gujrat Torrent Energy Corpn. Ltd./Siemens Germany
15.	Lignite based TPS/ Gujarat	Forgn.	250.00 (Lignite)	875.00	Eisenberg Group of Co., Isreal
	Total Gujarat		904.70	3053.14	
16.	Hissar TPS/ Haryana	Forgn.	500.00 (2x250) (Coal)	1000.00	Cogentrix Inc. USA

No.	Name of project/ State.	Foreign/ Indian	Capacity (MW)	Prov. Cost Estimate (Rs. Crs.)	Name of the Company
1	2	3	5	6	7
17.	Yamunanagar TPS/ Haryana	Forgn.	1000.00 (4x250) (Coal)	3500.00	Eisenberg Group of Cos. Israel
Total: Haryana				4500.00	
18.	Ghanvi HEP/ Himachal Pradesh	Indian	22.50 (Hydel)	40.00	Punjab Power Gene- ration Machines Ltd.
19.	Uhl-III HEP/ Himachal Pradesh	Indian	70.00 (3x23.4) (Hydel)	176.77	Ballarpur Industries Ltd, Delhi
20.	Baspa HEP/ Himachal Pradesh	Indian	300.00 (Hydel)	547.00	Jiprakash Industries Ltd.
21.	Hibra HEP/ Himachal Pradesh	Forgn.	231.00 (Hydel)	708.50	Harza Engineering Co. USA.

No.	Name of project/ State.	Foreign/ Indian	Capacity (MW)	Prov. Cost Estimate (Rs. Crs.)	Name of the Company
1	2	3	5	6	7
22.	Dhamwari HEP/ Himachal Pradesh	Forgn.	70.00 (Hydel)	245.00	Harza Engineering Co. USA.
23.	Karchham-Wangtu/ Himachal Pradesh	Indian	900.00 (Hydel)	3150.00	Jaiprakash Industries Ltd.
24.	Neogal HEP/ Himachal Pradesh	Indian	12.00 (Hydel)	42.00	Om Power Corporation New Delhi
25.	Allain-Duhangun HEP/ Himachal Pradesh	Indian	192.00 (Hydel)	672.00	Rajasthan Spinning & Weaving Mills Ltd.
26.	Malana HEP/ Himachal Pradesh	Indian	86.00 (Hydel)	301.00	Rajasthan Spinning & Weaving Mills Ltd.
Total : Himachal			1883.50	5882.27	

No.	Name of project/ State.	Foreign/ Indian	Capacity (MW)	Prov. Cost Estimate (Rs. Crs.)	Name of the Company
1	2	3	5	6	7
27.	Mangalore TPS/ Karnataka	Forgn.	1000.00 (Coal)	4776.84	Cogentrix Inc. USA
28.	Mangalore TPS Karnataka	Indian Forgn.	300.00 (Coal)	900.00	Jaiprakash Industries Ltd National Power (U.K.)
29.	Almatti Dam HEP/ Karnataka	Forgn./ Indian	600.00 (Hydel) JV	1800.00	Asia Power Co. Ltd. (TAPCO) USA, Karnataka Power Corporation Hok Intercontinental Ltd. USA
30.	Hospet TPS/ Karnataka	Forgn.	500.00 (1x500)	1350.00 (Coal)	
31.	Raichur St.-V TPS/ Karnataka	Forgn./ Indian JV	500.00 (2x250) (coal)	1000.70	Public Power Int., Inc. (North East Energy) USA, Karnataka Power Corp.
Total: Karnataka			2900.00	9827.54	

No.	Name of project/ State.	Foreign/ Indian	Capacity (MW)	Prov. Cost Estimate (Rs. Crs.)	Name of the Company
1	2	3	5	6	7
32.	Thrikaripur TPP/ Kerala	Forgn.	420.00 (2x210) (Coal)	1480.00	M.A. Al-Mazroui Gen trading Est. UAE Scepture Power Co., USA
33.	Kuthungi HEP/ Kerala	Indian	20.00 (Hydel)	35.05	Indsil Electrosmelts Ltd.
34.	Boothathankettu HEP/ Kerala	Indian	16.00 (Hydel)	25.00	Silcal Metalurgic (P) Ltd.
35.	Ullunkal HEP/ Kerala	Indian	6.00 (Hydel)	13.55	Trvancore Electro Chemical Industries Ltd.
36.	Krikkayam HEP/ Kerala	Indian	12.00 (Hydel)	30.00	Travancore Electro Chemical Industries Ltd.
37.	Barapole HEP/ Kerala	Indian	9.00 (Hydel)	12.21	Ideal Projects & Services (P) Ltd.

No.	Name of project/ State.	Foreign/ Indian	Capacity (MW)	Prov. Cost Estimate (Rs. Crs.)	Name of the Company
1	2	3	5	6	7
38.	Chathankottunada-II/ Kerala	Indina	7.00 (Hydel)	4.94	Ideal Projects & (P) Ltd.
39.	Anakkayam/HEP/ Kerala	Indian	8.00 (Hydel)	29.10	Ideal Projects & Services (P) Ltd.
40.	Chembukkadvu-II/ Kerala	Indian	9.00 (Hydel)	12.85	Ideal Projects & Services (P) Ltd.
41.	Pachuram HEP/ Kerala	Indian	3.50 (Hydel)	4.72	Ideal Projects & Services (P) Ltd.
42.	Vilangad HEP/ Kerala	Indian	7.00 (Hydel)	10.59	Ideal Projects & Services (P) Ltd.
43.	Western Kallar HEP/ Kerala	Indina	5.00 (Hydel)	6.95	Idel Projects & Services (P) Ltd.
Total: Kerala				522.50	1664.96

No.	Name of project/ State.	Foreign/ Indian	Capacity (MW)	Prov. Cost Estimate (Rs. Crs.)	Name of the Company
1	2	3	5	6	7
44.	Pench TPS/ Madhya Pradesh	Indian	420.00 (2x210) (Coal)	1272.23	Century Power &
45.	Maheshwar HEP/ Madhya Pradesh	Indian	400.00 (10x40) (Hydel)	1073.00	S Kumars
46.	Korba West Extn. U-5&6 TPS/ Madhya Pradesh	Indian	420.00 (2x210) (Col)	977.57	Mukand Ltd.
47.	Bhilai Captive TPS/ Madhya Pradesh	Indian/ JV	500.00 (Coal)	1200.00	Steel Authority ** of India Ltd.
48.	Taw HEP/ Madhya Pradesh	Indian	12.00 (Hydel)	20.00	HEG Ltd.
	Total: Madhya Pradesh		1752.00	4542.80	** NTPC ws Previously associated. They disassociated with the project.

No.	Name of project/ State.	Foreign/ Indian	Capacity (MW)	Prov. Cost Estimate (Rs. Crs.)	Name of the Company
1	2	3	5	6	7
49.	Dabhol CCGT (LNG)/ Development Maharashtra	Forgn.	2015.00 (LNG)	9051.27	Enron Power Corporation & General
50.	Khaperkheda TPS/ Units 5 & 6/ Maharashtra	Forgn.	500.00 (2x250) (Coal)	1632.00	Aranco Line Shipping Co. (Malta/Singapore) R R Associates
51.	Barge/Ship Mounted/ Maharashtra	Indian	110.00 (1x110) (LSHS)	395.00	Mega Power Pvt. Ltd. (Confidence Shipping Co. Ltd.), Maharashtra
52.	Bhivpuri/PSS/ Maharashtra	Indian	90.00 (1x90)	89.87 (Hydel)	Tata Electric Co.
53.	Khaperkheda TPS/ Units 3 & 4/ Maharashtra		500.00 (2x250) (Coal)	1750.00	Offers under appraisal

No.	Name of project/ State.	Foreign/ Indian	Capacity (MW)	Prov. Cost Estimate (Rs. Crs.)	Name of the Company
1	2	3	5	6	7
54.	Nagathone GBPP/ Maharashtra		410.00 (Gas)	1435.00	Offers under appraisal
55.	Umred TPS Maharashtra	Forgn./ Indian JV	1000.00 (Coal)	3000.00	Ispath Alloys Ltd./ Mitsui (Japan)
Total: Maharashtra			4625.00	17353.14	
56.	Talcher TPS/ Orissa	Forgn.	500.00 (2x250) (Coal)	1500.00	Spectrum Technologies USA
57.	Kamalanga (Dhankanal TPS) Orissa	Forgn.	500.00 (2x250) (Coal)	1500.00	International Equity Partners, L.P., USA
58.	Ib Valley TPS/ Orissa	Forgn.	420.00 (2x210) (Coal)	2025.60	A E S Corporation, USA

No.	Name of project/ State.	Foreign/ Indian	Capacity (MW)	Prov. Cost Estimate (Rs. Crs.)	Name of the Company
1	2	3	5	6	7
59.	Ib Valley TPS/ Orissa	Forgn.	3000.00 (Coal)	10500.00	eisenberg group of Cos. Isreal
60.	Duburi/ TPS Orissa	Forgn./ Indian	500.00 (2x250) (Coal)	1548.00	Kalinga Power Corp./ North East Energy Services Inc., USA/ Govt. Of Orissa
61.	Lapanga TPS/ Orissa	Forgn.	500.00 (2x250) (Coal)	1750.00	Pioneer Energy Inc. USA/Duke Engineering Services
62.	Naraj TPS/ Orissa	Indian	1000.00 (4x250) (Coal)	3500.00	Ispat Alloys Ltd., Calcutta
Total: Orissa			6420.00	22323.60	

No.	Name of project/ State.	Foreign/ Indian	Capacity (MW)	Prov. Cost Estimate (Rs. Crs.)	Name of the Company
1	2	3	5	6	7
63.	Barsingar TPS/ Rajasthan	Forgn.	240.00 (2x120) (Lig)	585.73	Coleman & Associates (Australian Consortium)
64.	Chittorgarh TPS/ Rajasthan	Indian	500.00 (1x500) (Coal)	1036.20	Century Textiles & Industries Ltd.
Totl: Rajasthan				1621.93	
65.	Cuddalore TPS/ Tamil Ndu	Forgn.	1000.00 (2x500) (Coal)	2000.00	Intemrional Contracting & Marketing Corpn., USA
66.	Pillaiaperumalhatur CCGT/Tamil Nadu	Forgn.	300.00 (2x100+ 1x100) (Gas)	429.49	P Vijaykumar Reddy, MAKOWSKI Associates, USA
67.	Zero unit (NLC)/ Tamil Nadu	Forgn. (NRI)	210.00 (1x210) (Lig)	750.00	ST Power systems Inc. USA

No.	Name of project/ State.	Foreign/ Indian	Capacity (MW)	Prov. Cost Estimate (Rs. Crs.)	Name of the Company
1	2	3	5	6	7
68.	Srimushnam Lignite TPS/Tamil Nadu	Indian	250.00 (1x250) (Lig)	800.00	TICAPCO (GM Swamy Associates)
69.	Jayamkondam Lignite TPS/Tamil Nadu	Indian/ Forgn.	1500.00 (3x500) (Lig)	4500.00	Jayamkondam Lignite Power Corportion Ltd. (TIDCO)/Manally Bharat. Ltd & Siemens, Germany
Total Tamil Nadu			3260.00	8479.49	
70.	Vishnupryag HEP/ Uttar Pradesh	Indian	360.00 (3x120)	612.88 (Hydel)	Jaiprakash Industries Ltd.
71.	Rosa TPS/ Uttar Pradesh	Forgn./ Indian	750.00 (3x250) (Coal)	2625.00	Indo-Gulf fertilisers & Chemicals/Power Generation. U.K.
Total: Uttar Pradesh			110.00	3237.88	

No.	Name of project/ State.	Foreign/ Indian	Capacity (MW)	Prov. Cost Estimate (Rs. Crs.)	Name of the Company
1	2	3	5	6	7
72.	Sagardighi TPS/ W. Bengal	Forgn./ Indian JV	1000.00 (2x500) (Coal)	2000.00	Development Consultant Pvt. Ltd. CMS, USA Generation & WBSEB Spectrum Technologies USA
73.	Dankuni GBPP/ W. Bengal	Forgn. (NRI)	20.00 (Gas)	40.00	
74.	Gouripore TPS/ W. Bengal	Indian	135.00 (Coal)	500.00	Birla Technincal Services
75.	Baallagarh TPS/ W. Bengal	Indian	500.00 (2x250) (Coal)	1671.48	CESCLtd. Calcutta.
Total: West Bengal				1655.00	4211.48
Total: Northern Region				6033.50	17242.08

No.	Name of project/ State.	Foreign/ Indian	Capacity (MW)	Prov. Cost Estimate (Rs. Crs.)	Name of the Company
1	2	3	5	6	7
	Total-Northern Region		6033.50	17242.08	
	Total - Western Region		7281.70	24949.08	
	Total-Southern Region		9625.50	32615.02	
	Total-Eastern Region		8575.00	28172.08	
	Total-North-Eastern Region		1145.50	3734.25	
	ALL INDIA TOTAL:		32661.20	108712.51	

II. RENOVATION OF MODERNISATION PROPOSALS

1.	Talcher TPS/ Orissa	Foreign	460.00 (4x60+ 2x210)	Community Energy Alternatives (CEA) Inc., USA
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III. DISTRIBUTION PROPOSALS

1.	Cuttack Electrical circle/Orissa	Indian		Ispat Alloys Ltd., Calcutta
2.	Bhuvneshwar Electrical circle/Orissa	Indian		R PG Enterprises, Calcutta

[English]

Trivandrum Neyyattinkara Bye-Pass

2160. PROF. SAVITHRI
LAKSHMANAN :
SHRI V. S.
VIJAYARAGHAVAN :

Will the Minister of SURFACE
TRANSPORT be please to state :

(a) the action taken by the Union Government to clear the two preposals submitted by Kerala Government for construction of the Trivandrum-Neyyattinkara combined bye-pass Phase-I and Alapuzha bye-pass Phase-II, and

(b) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT
(SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) and (b). The proposal for construction of remaining length of 4.65 km. out of 20.50 km. of Trivandrum-Neyyattinkara combined bypass (Phase-I) is at pre-sanction stage. Proposal for Alapuzha Bypass (Phase-II) has not yet been received from the State Government.

[Translation]

Roads of Inter State and Economic Importance

2161. SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI
ASHRAF FATMI :
SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN :

Will the Minister of SURFACE
TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the criteria laid down for construction of roads of Inter-State and economic importance;

(b) the details of construction work done

in Uttar Pradesh during the last three years under this scheme; and

(c) the details of the places in Uttar Pradesh where work is in progress under the scheme for the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT
(SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) The criteria are as under, viz.

- (i) Inter-State roads/bridges necessary for ensuring through communications;
- (ii) Roads/bridges required for opening up new areas to which railway facilities cannot be provided in the near future; and
- (iii) Roads/Bridges which can contribute materially to rapid economic development, e.g. in hilly areas and places having rich mineral resources for exploitation.

(b) During the last three years, one work relating to construction of bridge over river Ganga in Unnao district has been completed under the Scheme in question.

(c) During the current year, two works under this scheme are in progress, viz. :-

- (i) Bridge over river Ghagra near Manji-Ghat on Ballia-Chappra Road, and
- (ii) Bridge over river Yamuna on Ambala-Saharanpur Road.

[English]

Relations with Pakistan

2162. SHRI D. VENKATESWARA
RAO :
SHRI K. PRADHANI :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to establish better relations with Pakistan;

(b) if so, the steps taken in that direction during the last one year; and

(c) the reaction of the Government of Pakistan thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA): (a) to (c) Government are committed to resolve all differences with Pakistan peacefully and through bilateral negotiations within the framework of the Simla Agreement. On 19th October, 1993, in a message to the Prime Minister of Pakistan, Prime Minister proposed wide-ranging and sustained bilateral discussions between India and Pakistan on all matters of mutual concern, including issues related to Jammu & Kashmir.

The Foreign Secretaries of India and Pakistan met at Islamabad from 1-3 January, 1994. At these talks, the entire range of bilateral issues including differences related to Jammu & Kashmir issue were discussed. We expressed our readiness to draw a schedule for further talks. Pakistan, however, was unwilling to commit itself to any time-frame for further talks.

Pursuant to the Foreign Secretary-level talks at Islamabad, Government forwarded to Pakistan on 24 January, 1994 six Non-papers containing specific and constructive suggestions on Siachen, Sir Creek, agreement on maintenance of peace and tranquility along the LOC, Tulbal Navigation Project, additional Confidence Building Measures and India-Pakistan Joint Commission.

On March 21, 1994 Government once again urged Pakistan to consider the Indian proposals with sincerity of purpose as they could form the basis of a comprehensive and meaningful dialogue and suggested that the Eighth round of Foreign Secretary-level talks may be resumed either in New Delhi or in

Islamabad. Pakistan's response is awaited.

During a meeting between Minister of State for External Affairs, Shri R. L. Bhatia and the Pak Foreign Minister in Dhaka on July 31, 1994, we reiterated our offer of dialogue and renewed our willingness to receive both the Foreign Minister and the Foreign Secretary of Pakistan at their convenience for discussions. We also had a useful exchange of views on bilateral issues such as expeditious exchange of fishermen in each other's custody, the implementation of the Code of Conduct for Treatment of Diplomatic/Consular Personnel, etc.

Government have repeatedly expressed its readiness for further talks. Pakistan, however, is attempting to link the scheduling of future talks with the ground situation in J&K, including the level of security forces deployed against terrorists in J&K and discussions on the modalities of a plebiscite which Government have consistently regarded as unacceptable.

Pakistan's anti-India campaign, including its attempts to internationalise the J&K issue through its efforts to introduce a resolution on the human rights situation in J&K and its strident and provocative statements and actions vitiate the atmosphere of bilateral relations and are not conducive to good neighborly relations.

Directives to Refineries

2163. **SHRISANDIPAN BHAGWAN THORAT:** Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have issued specific directives to various refineries to explore the ways of reducing emissions of smoke and other gases;

(b) if so, the details of measures taken/proposed to be taken at various refineries and the likely cost thereof;

(c) the minimal national standards prescribed for the refinery and the compliance

status of each refinery thereto; and

(d) the investments proposed to be made during the Eighth Plan to curb pollution levels in refinery sector and the progress achieved in this regard so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) : (a) to (d) In accordance with the notification of the Ministry of Environment & Forests dated 19.5.1993, all refineries have been advised to take necessary actions to comply with the stipulations with regard to gaseous emission as well as MINAS. The refineries have also initiated necessary steps like installation of sulphur plant, installation of stack and ambient air quality monitoring instruments, better control of flare system and increasing stack height etc. As regards the Minas standard for liquid effluent, most of the refineries are meeting the required standard. The cost of these measures differs from refinery to refinery and these measures are continuous process and thus difficult to precisely estimate the total cost.

[English]

L.P.G. Connections in Kanpur, U.P.

2164. SHRI KESHRI LAL : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of L.P.G. connections proposed to be released in the rural areas of Kanpur during 1994-95;

(b) whether the Government propose to open new LPG agencies in the rural areas of Kanpur;

(c) if so, the locations thereof; and

(d) the time by which these are likely to start functioning?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR

SHARMA) : (a) Release of new LPG gas connections is not made on a rural/urban basis.

(b) There is no such proposal under consideration at present.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Petrol Pumps in Bhopal

2165. SHRI SURAJBHANU SOLANKI : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of petrol pumps in Bhopal where surprise checks were conducted during 1993-94;

(b) the details of irregularities found in petrol pumps in that State; and

(c) the action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) : (a) Surprismse checks were conducted at 58 Petrol Pumps in Bhopal duirng 1993-94.

(b) No irrugarlities were found in these petrol pumps

(c) Does not arise.

[English]

Fish Processing Plant

2166. SHRI K. MURALEEDHARAN : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any proposal for setting up a Tuna Fish Processing Plant on the Lakshasweep Islands; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI) : (a) and (b). During the financial year 1992-93, a proposal was received from the Lakshdweep Development Corporation Ltd. (LDCL) seeking financial assistance for establishing additional infrastructural facilities for preservation and processing of tuna and other fish, at their canning factory in Minicoy. An amount of Rs. 26.25 lakhs was disbursed to LDCL as grant-in-aid during February, 1993 for the said project.

Telephone Connections from M.P.S. Quota

2167. SHRIMATI DIL KUMARI BHANDARI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) number of sanctions of telephone connections from MPs quota received in MTNL office, Delhi from C.G.M. West Bengal Telecom circle during January to July, 1994 and the details thereof;

(b) the number of telephone connections provided so far; and

(c) the time by which the remaining connections are likely to be provided?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) 180 sanctions have been received by MTNL, New Delhi from West Bengal Circle during January to July 1994. The area-wise details are as under :-

West	:	28
Central	:	14
North	:	16
South	:	80
East	:	32

(b) 63 telephone connections have been provided so far.

(c) Technically non feasible cases are likely to be cleared by 31st March 1995. These connections shall be provided progressively as and when the areas become feasible. Cases pending only for want of registration particulars will be cleared as and when registration particulars are furnished.

Central Road Fund Assistance to Assam

2168. SHRI PROBIN DEKA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to State :

(a) the details of the ongoing projects funded out of the Central Road Fund in Assam ;

(b) the details of project-wise estimated cost, amount released and spent so far;

(c) whether the Union Government have released the entire allocated amount; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) to (d) The details of the ongoing works in Assam approved under Central Road Fund including their estimated cost and amount approved are given in the Statement enclosed .

Allocation of funds is done every year for the State as a whole taking into account the total cost of schemes approved funds released previously, inter-se priority on All India basis, requirements projected by State Government and availability of budget provision. Funds released to Assam for ongoing works under Central Road Fund during the last three years are as under :-

	(Rs. in lakhs)
1991-92	25.00
1992-93	60.00
1993-94	40.00

STATEMENT

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Sl. No.	Name of work	Date of approval	Estimated Cost	Amount approved under C.R.F.
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Improvement of Riding Quality in the urban link portion of NH-37 (West of Guwahati) from bridge No. 9/1 on NH-37 to the Junction point with NH-31 (Km. 142-146)	20.1.92	39.12	38.12
2.	Widening of North Guwahati Amingaon Hajo Balbari Road from 15th to 34th Km.	20.1.92	70.00	70.00
3.	Rangapara to Borjuli under Tezpur road Division.	4.5.93	15.00	15.00
4.	Khanamukh to Kachubeel under Tezpur roads Division.	4.5.93	15.00	15.00
5.	Lilabari Seajuli road	4.5.93	10.00	10.00
6.	Anipur Olivicherra road	4.5.93	10.00	10.00

[Translation]

Import of L.P.G. and Kerosene

2169. SHRI RAMNIHORE RAI : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the companies in private sector in the country permitted to import L.P.G. and Kerosene alongwith the quantity thereof;

(b) whether private companies are importing L.P.g. and Kerosene at a less price than that by public sector companies; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) : (a) Under the Parallel Marketing System, private agencies have been allowed to import LPG and kerosene and to sell them at market determined prices. They are not required to obtain any permission from the Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas for this purpose. However, they will have to obtain necessary approvals under the relevant Acts and Rules regarding safety, pollution control etc. as applicable.

(b) and (c) The details of the price at which these products are imported by private agencies are not maintained by the Government.

Neelam Project of O.N.G.C.

[English]

2170. S H R I SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether O.N.G.C.'s Neelam project has been commissioned recently;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof and

the total estimated cost of the project;

(c) the cost of materials and labour separately; and

(d) the steps being taken for completion of the project on schedule?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The handling capacity of the project is :-

Oil	12000 BOPD
Gas	2.6 MMSCMD
Water	229000 BWPD

Peak production from the project shall be 4.5 MMTPA of oil and 1.8 MMSCMD of gas.

The estimated cost of the project approved by Govt. is Rs. 3541.85 crores.

(c) The project was executed on turn-key basis at a lumpsum price.

(d) Does not arise.

L.P.G. Connections In M.P.

[Translation]

2171. SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHAUHAN : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of L.P.G. agencies functioning at present in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) the number of L.P.G. connections issued during last three years in the State; and

(c) the target fixed for providing new L.P.G. connections during 1994-95?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) : (a) As on 1.4.1994, there were 242 LPG distributorships functioning in Madhya Pradesh.

(b) Details of LPG connections released by oil companies during the last three years in Madhya Pradesh are as under:-

1991-92	-	46009
1992-93	-	33514
1993-94	-	49823

(c) LPG connections are not released on State basis. They are released on the basis of product availability, customer enrolment plan for the year, slack available with the distributors in the State and waitlists

with the distributors.

Four Laning of National Highway-2

2172. SHRI AVTAR SINGH BHADANA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the progress made with regard to the four laning of National Highway-2 from Ballabgarh to Agra during the last two years;

(b) the amount spent so far; and

(c) the time by which this work is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) to (c) The work is in 3 Section. The details are :-

Sl. No.	Name of Section	Progress during last 2 years	Amount spent (Rs. in crores)	Likely date of completion
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Ballabgarh to HR-UP Border Section	Progress upto 194 is 23%	Rs. 24.70 crores up to June, 1994	June, 1996
2.	HR-UP Border to Mathura June, 1994	Progress upto June 194 is 11.76%	Rs. 13.94 crores upto	June, 1996
3.	Mathura-Agra Section	The work is in pre-tendering stage. Hence likely date of its completion can not be indicated at this state.		

Policy for Postal Service

[English]

2173. SHRI LAL BABU RAI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) Whether any policy has been formulated by the Government in regard to postal services; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) The Department of Posts has consistently followed the policy of providing adequate postal services in the country. While counter services are provided through regular expansion of the postal network improvement in mail processing and delivery is effected through rationalisation of procedures adoption of suitable transport system and better management. The rapidly increasing pace of development in the country has given rise to more varied customer needs along with an expectation of a modernised system. In order to meet these aspirations of the people the Department of Posts is implementing a policy of modernising the service with the following objectives :

- (i) Providing efficient, speedy and responsive customer service through induction of new technologies, adoption of mechanical aids and rationalisation of procedures;
- (ii) Introduction of new value-added services to meet specific needs of the customers;
- (iii) Enhancement of employee satisfaction and providing more customer facility through improved ergonomics and clean and friendly work-place.

(b) Computer-based counter machines have been introduced in more than 500

different postal counters in the country. Management control and supervision over counter services are being strengthened so that service can be more responsive to customer needs. Programmes for complete modernisation of post offices through total computerisation are being taken up selectively to create pockets of excellence which will serve as models for modernisation.

New technologies have been inducted in the area of mail processing with the setting up of the country's first automated mail processing centre at Bombay in April, 1993. More such mail processing systems are planned for installation in the important mail concentration centres. A pilot scheme to speed up transmission of money order through satellite channel is also under implementation. Computerisation has also been introduced in Savings Bank and PLI functions with the emphasis on modernisation of the customer interface in all these services.

A Scheme for corporate money order service to provide facility for quick money transfer for the corporate sector has been finalised.

Introduction of Metro Channel and Rajdhani Channel has provided focussed attention for large volumes of pin-coded mails between the national capital and the metros and state capitals of the country. Such mails are not handled on priority through earmarked and systematized channels and delivered within 24 to 48 hours to their destinations. A Business Channel for exclusive handling of business mails posted in bulk has also been introduced.

A scheme for providing post shop and telecom shop in important post offices in the country has been finalised. This will provide additional facilities for the customers through a synergy between Department of Posts and the Department of Telecommunications.

L.P.G. in Southern States

2174. SHRI K. PRADHANI : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL

GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is scarcity of LPG in Southern States; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken to ease the shortage of LPG in those states?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) and (b) The demand of existing customers of LPG in the Southern States is by and large being met in full. Temporary backlogs that may arise are cleared by augmenting LPG supplies through operation of Bottling Plants during extended hours and on holidays and by arranging supplies from bottling plants of adjoining areas.

New Telephone Exchanges in Kerala

2175. SHRI THAYIL JOHN

ANJALOSE : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to set up new electronic telephone exchanges in Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof with location and the capacity of the proposed telephone exchanges; and

(c) the time by which these are likely to become operational?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) As given in the Statement enclosed.

(c) These are likely to become operational by March, 1995.

STATEMENT

New Electronic telephone exchanges proposed to be set up in Kerala during 1994-95

1	2	3
ALLEPPEY		
1.	Arthinkal	256 P C- DOT RAX
2.	Pathirapally	256 P C DOT RAX
3.	Alleppey Unit III	2000 Lines RLU
CANNANORE		
1.	Vaniyappara	256 P C- DOT RAX
2.	Tellicherry Unit II	3000 Lines RLU
CALICUT		
1.	REC Calicut	256 P C- DOT RAX
2.	Calicut Unit II	10000 Lines New Technology)
3.	Calicut Unit III	5000 Lines E-10B Main

1	2	3
ERNAKULAM		
1.	Manapra	256 P C-DOT RAX
2.	Murukkumpadam	256 P C DOT RAX
3.	Ernakulam -Unit IV	3000 Lines C-DOT MMAX I
4.	Ernakulam -Wellington Island Unit II	3000 Lines C-DOT MAX I
5.	KothaMangalam Unit II	2000 Lines C-DOT MAXI
6.	Perumbavoor Unit II	3000 Lines C-DOT MAXI
PALGHAT		
1.	Palghat Unit II	5000 Lines RLU
PATHANAMTHITTA		
1.	Vallicode- Kottayam	256 P C- DOT

1	2	3
QUILON		
1.	Quilon-Vellayittambalam	2000 Lines RLU
TRIVANDRUM		
1.	Trivandrum-Kaithamukku	400 Lines (New Technology)
2.	Trivandrum-Kaimanam	2000 Lines (New Technology)
3.	Trivandrum-Medical College Unit - II	E-10 -B (M) 4000 Lines
Total:		20 Exchanges

Operation of Cellular Telephones

2176. **SHRI AMAL DUTTA**: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to operate Cellular telephones in metro cities by one or more than one operator;

(b) if so, the criteria laid down in this regard;

(c) the estimated cost of exchange apparatus per person and the rental and call charges the subscribers will have to pay;

(d) the number of subscribers for cellular telephones in each of the places where permission is to be given for operation of such telephone; and

(e) the criteria laid down by the Government for division of areas among the Cellular telephone operators?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Yes Sir. It has been decided to franchise Cellular Mobile Telephone Services on a licence basis to two operators in each of the metro, cities.

(b) The license as will be granted on a non-exclusive basis and the service will be provided within the ceiling tariff fixed by Government.

(c) No expenditure will be incurred by the Govt. in Exchange apparatus which will be purchased, installed, operated and maintained by the licensee. The ceiling on rental and call charges is under the consideration of the Government.

(d) The Govt. has not carried out any

survey to estimate number of subscribers. This work will be don by the licensees.

(e) Both the licensees, in each city, will be licensed to operate the service in whole of the service area of the city on an exclusive basis.

Telephone connections to Panchayats in M.P.

2177. **SHRI PHOOL CHAND VERMA**: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of Panchayat Headquarters in Madhya Pradesh linked with telephone facility so far; and

(b) the amount spent for this purpose during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) As on 31-7-94, total no. of villages with Panchayat Headquarters in Madhya Pradesh, linked with telephone facility is 18.424.

(b) During the last three years, amount spent for this purpose is about Rs. 173 Crores.

LPG Bottling Plants

2178. **SHRI KASHIRAM RANA**: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the location of LPG bottling plants and their production capacity, State-wise; and

(b) the actual production of each plant during the last three years, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND

NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) : (a) and (b). The requisite information is given in the Statement enclosed.

STATEMENT

Sl. No.	State	Bottling Plant	Company	Existing Bottling Capacity TMT PA	Actual Production		
					1991-92	1992-93 (In MTs)	1993-94
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Vijaywada	IOC	22	15,920	21,370	37,520
		Chertapally	HPC	78	54685	60598	76630
		Vijaywada	HPC	44	15481	24947	28032
		Visakh (Kondapally)	HPC	44	44158	48166	54856
		Tedapally	HPC		12131*	-	-
					* Plant closed April, 1992		
2.	Assam	Bongaigoan	IOC	22	28,720	34070	36,080
		Gauhati	IOC	5	4350	3480	5840
		Oil Dhuliajan	IOC	25	25000	2300	20000
		Silchar	IOC	10	360	7580	8740

Sl. No.	State	Bottling Plant	Company	Existing Bottling Capacity TMT PA	Actual Production		
					1991-92	1992-93 (In MTs)	1993-94
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
3.	Bihar	Jamshedpur	IOC	25	32420	32190	34350
		Barauni	IOC	15	11940	7000	12790
4.	Goa	Goa	HPC	22	133342	13275	14662
5.	Gujarat	Rajkot	IOC	44	54650	46980	51000
		Hazira	IOC	44	76450	72100	76430
		Surat	HPC	12	21737	209058	21498
		Gandhinagar	HPC	26	18034	23029	27768
		Koyali	IOC	102	60870	611140	57960
		Ahmedabad	BPC	34*	Plant commissioned in March, 1994		

Sl. No.	State	Bottling Plant	Company	Existing Bottling Capacity TMT PA	Actual Production		
					1991-92	1992-93 (In MTs)	1993-94
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
6.	Haryana	Karnal	IOC	44	55070	54630	54530
		Hissar	BPC	10	11600	12700	13700
		Piyala	BPC	132	54200	66200	84300
		Jind	HPC	22	15787	1682	20134
		Bahadurgarh	HPC	22	-	-	1314
7.	Hinachal Pralesh	Badoi	IOC	10	9960	11600	13990
8.	Jammu & Kashmir (Barai Brahmana)	Jammu	HPC	20	10232	12731	14901
9.	Karnataka	Bangalore	IOC	34	75390	75060	74350
		Bangalore	HPC	34	36052	38709	41030
		Mysore	HPC	22	17784	16153	19140
		Hubli	HPC	22	15925	20061	23379
		Mangalore	BPC	22	18800	25600	26700

Sl. No.	State	Bottling Plant	Company	Existing Bottling Capacity TMT PA	Actual Production		
					1991-92	1992-93 (In MTs)	1993-94
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
10.	Kerala	Cochin	IOC	25	-	-	2170
		Trivandrum	BPC	22	23700	26700	26200
		Calicut	ICO	18	-	22240	27170
		Palghat	HPC	10	-	2364	10075
		CRL	IOC	25	22000	15000	3000*
11.	Mahdya Pradesh	Bhopal	IOC	44	41650	52010	59560
		Bhitohi	BPC	44	200	30700	33900
		Hanglia	HPC	34	25816	30865	33217
		Raipur	HPC	44	11540	17348	20145
12.	Maharashtra	Bombay	BPC	122	16100	127400	119100
		Uran	BPC	132	38400	76700	93000
		Jalgoan	BPC	22	32800	36000	43700

Sl. No.	State	Bottling Plant	Company	Existing Bottling Capacity TMT PA	Actual Production		
					1991-92	1992-93 (In MTs)	1993-94
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
		Sholapur	BPC	22	32700	36400	43700
		Bombay	HPC	65	54352	58176	56044
		Aurangabad	HPC	22	18847	19078	24519
		Chandrapur	HPC	22	12332	14568	15935
		Khapri	HPC	34	29810	32475	35457
		Hiraj (Hazar-Nadi)	HPC	22	14747	16052	17445
		Nagul	HPC	25	39646	40825	44814
		Chakan/Pune*	HPC	44	-	10279	26865
		Pune	IOC	22	20377	1436	-
					-	-	3310

* Plant resited at Chakan and closed effective February, 1993.

Sl. No.	State	Bottling Plant	Company	Existing Bottling Capacity TMT PA	Actual Production		
					1991-92	1992-93 (In MTs)	1993-94
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
13.	Orissa	Balasoure	IOC	25	32100	31970	29730
		Khurda	BPC	10	7900	8800	9600
		Khurda Road (Jathni)	HPC	44	21936	24196	25380
14.	Punjab	Jalluhandhur	IOC	68	60990	67230	72880
		Lairu	BPC	88	31400	38100	46700
		Hoshiarpur	HPC	13	10246	12145	12506
15.	Rajasthan	Savainadhpor	IOC	44	39060	45750	51710
		Ajmer	IOC	10	10030	1022	11120
		Jaipur	BPC	10	22000	23800	27200
		Jodhpur	HPC	18	1836	21037	19350

Sl. No.	State	Bottling Plant	Company	Existing Bottling Capacity TMT PA	Actual Production		
					1991-92	1992-93 (In MTs)	1993-94
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
16.	Tamil Nadu	Coimbatore	BPC	34	48200	49400	51900
		Tuticorin	BPC	10	12700	14800	21200
		MRL	IOC	75	78000	76000	77000
		Salem	IOC	34	77040	79630	78900
17.	Uttar Pradesh	Kanpur	IOC	64	70710	76450	80030
		Mathura	IOC	88	96410	100330	19380
		Alhabad	IOC	34	31150	38870	45160
		Haldwani	IOC	22	10450	10180	11070
		Hardwar	IOC	22	9890	10360	15070
		Bareilly	BPC	10	11700	13600	13700

Sl. No.	State	Bottling Plant	Company	Existing Bottling Capacity TMT PA	Actual Production		
					1991-92	1992-93 (In MTs)	1993-94
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
		Lucknow	BPC	10	11600	12800	13700
		Kasna	HPC	13	13248	13446	14035
		Unnao	HPC	13	14393	13870	1474
		Gorakhpur	HPC	13	1063	5911	7417
		Varanasi	IOC	25	14670	28950	32790
18.	West Bengal	Kalyani	IOC	44	45400	43600	50000
		Durgapur	IOC	64	46130	49960	52730
		Haldia	IOC	22	240	16430	18780
		Paharpur	HPC	26	21474	23795	25265
UNION TERRITORIES							
19.	Delhi	Shakurbasti	HPC*		15632	17677	6959
		Tikkrikalan	ICO	132	147410	158020	163200
		** Plant resited at Bahadurgash and closed effective September, 1993.					
20.	Pondicherry	Pondicherry	IOC	10	-	-	1790
		* CRL, Cochin has ceased bottling from June, 1993 onward					

[Translation]

Steel Production

2179. SHRI NITISH KUMAR :
SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA :

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the stoppage of the recovery of Steel Development Fund levy has increased profits earned by the Public Sector Undertakings in the steel sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the production cost of steel has increased on account of increase in the price of coal; and

(d) if so, the approximate percentage of increase in production cost and the measures proposed to be taken to make the production of steel remunerative?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV) A (a) and (b). The discontinuation of the Steel Development Fund levy is expected to have a favourable impact on the profits of the Public Sector and other Integrated Steel Plants through which SDF levy was realised. However, the net impact on profits would depend on various factors such as quantum of sales achieved, escalation in input costs which cannot be passed on to the consumers, etc.

(c) and (d) It is a fact that cost of production of steel in integrated steel plants has increased due to increase in coal prices. It is estimated that due to increase in price of coal, cost of production of saleable steel would increase by Rs. 90/tonne in respect of SAIL.

In order to reduce the cost of production of steel, several measures have been taken such as increasing utilisation of installed capacity, improving productivity, introduction of energy conservation measures, improving availability of equipment through affective maintenance, timely modernisation and balancing investment, improving product mix, making value added items and meeting customers requirement and implementation of other cost control and cost reduction measures etc.

Local Exchanges

[English]

2180. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have encouraged public sector companies to bid for supply of local exchanges; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) No, Sir. However public sector companies like any other companies are free to participate in open tender bids of local exchange.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

Food Processing Industries in Bihar

[Translation]

2181. SHRI LAL BABU RAI :
SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN :

Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have conducted any survey to assess the potential of food processing industries in Bihar;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to set up such industrial units in the State and the total amount to be invested for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI) : (a) to (c) While the Ministry has not itself conducted any such studies under its Plan Schemes, Ministry is providing assistance to state Governments and other institutions and organisations for conducting studies in various aspects of Food Processing Sector for further development.

In December 1993 an amount of Rs. 3 lakhs has been provided to Bihar Industrial and Technical Consultancy organisation Ltd., Patna for conducting a study for assessing the production, availability of marketable surplus of Fruit and Vegetable for processing Industry in Bihar. The promotion or assistance to industries based on the report can be considered on its merit when the report is made available.

Embezzlement in Aurangabad

2182. SHRI VILAS RAO NAGNATHRAO GUNDEWAR : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any memorandum in regard to embezzlement in offices of Telecom Department in Aurangabad district and Marathwada Division in Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) An official while working at Cash

Counter committed fraud of Rs. 4,75,000/- by not remitting part of cash in the Government Treasury.

(c) A case has been registered with the Police at Kranti Chowk Police Station on 10-11-1993.

Disciplinary action has also been initiated against one Gazetted Officer and three non-Gazetted Officials.

Ban can Export of Telecom Equipments

2183. SHRI MAHESH KANODIA :
DR. RAMESH CHAND
TOMAR :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) other the Government have received any representation from the manufacturers of telecommunications equipments in the country to impose ban on the export of these equipments;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

Telephone Instruments from Private Sector

[English]

2184. SHRI S. M. LALJAN BASHA :
Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited purchases telephone instruments from the private sector;

(b) if so, the details of instruments purchased by MTNL for Bombay and Delhi during 1993-94;

(c) whether the Government propose to bring down the price of ordinary phone instrument;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether there is any cartel operating in this matter; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and the price paid for such phones?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKHRAM): (a) MTNL purchases telephone instruments on the basis of tenders in which both public and private sector companies participate.

(b) The details of instruments procured by MTNL during 93-94 are as under :-

Delhi	-	1,80,000 Nos
Bombay	-	2,19,750 Nos

(c) and (d). The price of telephone instruments procured is based on the lowest price tendered. During recent years, there has been a declining trend in the prices due to indigenisation and competition.

(e) Prices received in the tender for procurement for the year 94-95 do not indicate cartel formation.

(f) Not applicable.

Duplicate Gas Cylinders

2185. SHRI ARJUN SINGH YADAV : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a large number of duplicate gas cylinders are in circulation in the country;

(b) if so, the number of such gas cylinders detected in bottling plants, during the last two years; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to check this malpractice?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) : (a) Some spurious LPG gas cylinders have been detected from certain parts of the country.

(b) The number of such cylinders detected in bottling plants during 1992-93 and 1993-94 is 5495 and 3778 respectively.

(c) Spurious cylinders are injected into the system by unscrupulous elements, after procuring the same from cylinder manufacturers. When approved and licensed cylinder manufacturers are found to manufacture and supply spurious cylinders, further procurement of cylinders from them by the Oil Industry is suspended and statutory approvals are withdrawn. Police action against such manufacturers and those found involved in circulation of spurious cylinders is also taken. Suspected premises are raided and offenders are arrested and spurious cylinders seized.

Gas Flaring from Bombay High

2186. SHRI SHANKER INH VAGHELA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the foreign funding agencies in Zero-gas flaring project of Bombay High;

(b) the projected availability of gas after completion of these projects;

(c) whether any reduction in this projected availability has been estimated; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and how the shortfall is proposed to be met?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR

SHARMA): (a) The Gas Flaring Reduction Project is being implemented with financial assistance from World Bank, Asian Development Bank and Export-Import Bank of Japan. ONGC has also tied up various suppliers credits.

(b) The projected availability of gas from the Western Offshore fields in 1996-97 is 39.85 MMSCMD at after shrinkage and internal use by ONGC and GAIL.

(c) and (d) The projected availability from the Western offshore fields has been revised due to changes in the schedule of new fields has been revised due to changes in the schedule of new projects and rectificatory measures including closing of high GOR wells.

Import of Petroleum Products

2187. SHRI JAGMEET SINGH BRAR : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to import petroleum products during 1994-95;

(b) if so, the details thereof including inter-alia the quantity of petroleum products proposed to be imported, the cost involved (in foreign exchange) etc.; and

(c) the estimated indigenous production and demand of petroleum products in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) : (a) and (b). Government has approved an import of 14.773 MMT of petroleum products for an estimated value of US\$ 3030 million for the year 1994-95.

(c) The indigenous production and demand of petroleum products during 1994-95 are estimated at 51.75 MMT and 64.10 MMT respectively.

[Translation]

Telephone Connections in Delhi

2188. DR. AMRITLAL KALIDAS PATEL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the bills of thousand of rupees are sent by Delhi Mahanagar Telephone Nigam to the persons having no telephone connections;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor, and the number of bills sent to such persons during the last two years, zone-wise;

(c) whether this is also a fact that though instruments have been installed at the houses of applicants registered in 1988 but the connections have not been made operative whereas the telephone connections of the consumers registered in 1991-92, the equipments have been made operative;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the action taken against officers found guilty?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) to (e). The information is being collected and the same will be laid on the Table of the House.

Rural Exchanges in Gujarat

[English]

2189. SHRI ARVIND TRIVEDI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether all exchanges in rural areas of Gujarat are functioning properly;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor and the steps taken by the Govt. to remedy the situation;

(c) the number of demands pending for

opening more rural exchanges in the State and action being taken thereon; and

(d) the number of telephone connections provided so far ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) and (b) . Yes, Sir. The rural exchanges in Gujarat State are functioning satisfactorily. However, during the rainy season, due to breakdown of some scattered trunk lines, sometimes the interconnectivity of a few rural exchanges get affected. Immediate action is taken to rectify the faults. Moreover, the old technology switches are being systematically replaced. Overhead long distance transmission lines progressively being replaced by high grade transmission media depending upon the availability of funds and equipment.

(c) Need for opening of new rural exchanges is being reviewed periodically as per Departmental guidelines and new exchanges opened from time to time depending upon availability of equipment and buildings. The proposals to open fifty new rural exchanges in Gujarat Telecom. Circles during 1994-95 have been finalised.

(d) There are 90532 (Ninety Thousand Five Hundred Thirty Two) Telephones working in rural Areas in Gujarat Circle as on 30-6-94.

Bridge over Mathura-Bareilly Highway

[Translation]

2190. SHRI RAJVEER SINGH: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to provide funds for construction of a separate bridge on Mathura-Bareilly Highway over Kachhala Ganga river;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (c). The Government of India are primarily responsible for the development and maintenance of National Highways only. All other roads are the responsibility of the respective State Governments. The proposed bridge in question does not fall on National Highway. Moreover, there is no proposal to construct such a bridge under any Centrally sponsored scheme at present.

Conversion of Telephone Exchanges in Gujarat

2191. SHRI N. J. RATHVA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of telephone exchanges proposed to be converted into electronic ones during 1991-92 and 1992-93 in Gujarat especially in Badodara, Bharoach and Panchmahal districts of the State;

(b) the number of exchanges actually converted out of them; and

(c) the time by which the remaining exchanges are likely to be converted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) and (b) No specific targets were fixed for conversion of telephone exchanges into electronic ones in Gujarat for years 1991-92 & 1992-93. However, the number of exchanges actually converted into electronic, for these years, for Gujarat and for districts of Vadodara, Bharuch and Panchmahal, is given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) All the smaller capacity electro mechanical exchanges are likely to be replaced by electronic by March 1997 and other larger capacity electromechanical exchanges would be replaced after the expiry of their useful life.

STATEMENT

THE DETAILS OF THE MANUAL AND ELECTRO-MECHANICAL EXCHANGES REPLACED WITH ELECTRONIC, DURING 1991-92 AND 1992-93 AS FOLLOWING

Sl. No.	Name of Unit	Replaced in 91-92	Replaced in 92-93
1	2	3	4
1.	Gujarat	177	312
2.	Vadodara Distt.	7	24
3.	Panch Mahal Distt.	6	16
4.	Bharuch Distt.	6	11

Investments by Oil India Limited

2192. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Oil India Limited have invested in banks under portfolio management scheme during 1989-90, 1991 and 1991-92 for the period of more than six months;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the amount deposited under portfolio management scheme by the company was not repaid till October, 1993; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) : (a) According to OIL, investments made during these years were at firm rates of interest and were treated as deposits.

(b) to (d) : Do not arise in view of (a) above.

PLI in Kerala

[English]

2193. PROF. SAVITHRI LAKSHMANI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the membership of Postal Life Insurance is increasing in the rural areas of Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof for the last three years, district-wise; and

(c) the details of the mode of publicity?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) Yes, Sir,

(b)	Year	No. of Policies
	1991-92	869
	92-93	1012
	93-94	1097

Information in respect of Policies district-wise has not been maintained. However, the average number of rural policies per district is 62 for 91-92, 72 for 92-93 and 78 for 93-94.

(c) PLI publicity folders are distributed through postmasters, Development Officers and Field Officers. Hoardings are also exhibited at important POs. Moreover, due publicity is given through print and electronic media.

Manganese Ore

2194. SHRI S. B. SIDNAL : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) the production consumption and export of manganese ore in the country during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) whether there has been a consistent decrease in the production and export of manganese ore;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to increase the production and export of manganese ore ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHANDEV) : (a) Production, consumption and export of Manganese ore in the country during the last three years has been as follows :

(Lakh tonnes)

Year	Production	Despatches (for Internal consumption)	Exports
1991-92	16.40	14.54	2.60
1992-93	18.70	15.58	2.23
1993-94	17.81	14.68	2.49

(b) and (c) As may be seen from the statement given above, there has not been any consistent decrease in the production and export of manganese ore.

(d) At present, the production of manganese ore is adequate to meet the existing demand, efforts have, however, been made to locate new reserves of manganese ore by taking up the exploratory work, utilisation of low grade ores etc.

For giving a boost to the exports of manganese ore from the year 1993-94 Government has fixed the ceilings for export of manganese ore for three years instead of one year earlier. Under the new Export Import (EXIM) Policy w.e.f. 1.4.94 Manganese Ore (India) Limited has been allowed to export manganese ore (produced from its mines) directly, though MMTC remains the main canalising agency for export of manganese ore.

IFC Locan to Andhra Pradesh

2195. SHRI D. VENKATESWARA RAO: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the International Finance Corporation (IFC) has approved investment in DVK Industries to build power plants in Andhra Pradesh ;

(b) if so, the total loan provided by the IFC;

(c) the time by which the agreement in setting up the power plants is likely to be reached; and

(d) the details of generation capacity of each of the projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) to (b). Ms GVK Industries Ltd who are setting up Jegurupadu Gas based Power Project in Andhra Pradesh, have intimated that IFC has sanctioned foreign currency loan of US Dollars 110 million and also agreed to participate to the extent of US Dollar 8.3 million in the equity of the project.

(c) The modified Power Purchase Agreement between the APSEB and GVK has been signed on 4.7.1994.

(d) The generating capacity of the project plant is 235 MW.

National Highways in Madhya Pradesh

[Translation]

2196. SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether any proposals have been received by the Government for the

development of National Highways in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the proposals accepted and the amount sanctioned for them;

(d) whether work on some of the sanctioned projects is being delayed; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). During the Eighth Five Year Plan, 49 proposals for development of National Highways in Madhya Pradesh have been received upto July, 1994. 15 proposals amounting to Rs. 118.89 crores have been sanctioned during the said period.

(d) and (e). Some projects have been delayed due to slow progress in land acquisition and shifting of utilities, contractual problems etc.

Drilling Plans in Gujarat

[English]

2197. DR. K. D. JESWANI : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether ONGC and the Oil India Limited have submitted any plan for drilling of some new areas in Gujarat; and

(b) if so, the details of the proposals and the concrete programme of drilling in these areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) : (a) and (b) Recently two prospects

'Gambhira' in Cambay basin and 'Lodhika' in Saurashtra area have been taken up for drilling and are at present under drilling by ONGC Ltd. two more prospects 'Degam' and 'Bhandu' in Cambay basin have also been identified to be taken up for drilling by ONGC Ltd.

Besides this, seismic surveys are continuing in different areas of Gujarat State to identify new prospects for drilling by ONGC Ltd.

Transportation System in Kerala Coastal Waters

2198. PROF. K. V. THOMAS : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state the feasibility of introducing rapid passenger transportation system in Kerala coastal waters to decongest the roads linking the heavily populated urban centres in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : There is no such proposal at present.

Incentives for growth of Food Processing Industries

2199. SHRI DHARMANNA MONDAYA SADUL : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) the average growth in production in the food processing sector in 1992-93 and 1993-94, State wise;

(b) whether financial assistance besides the Plan scheme allocation is extended to the State Governments for the growth of this industry; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI) : (a) Since Food Processing Industries are both

in the organised and unorganised sector information regarding average growth in Food processing sector, yearwise and is not maintained centrally.

(b) The Ministry does not extend any financial assistance besides the Plan Scheme allocation.

(c) Does not arise.

Branch Post Offices in Assam

2200 SHRI PROBIN DEKA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of branch post offices proposed to be opened in Assam during 1993-94; and

(b) the details of such post offices opened so far in the State ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) and (b). 26 Branch Post Offices were opened in Assam during 1993-94 against the target of 25.

The list showing the places where these post offices are opened is under collection and will be laid on the Table of the House.

National Highways in Maharashtra

2201. SHRI ANNA JOSHI : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the amount allocated and released to Maharashtra for construction, repairs and maintenance of National Highways in the State during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) the amount spent by the State Government; and

(c) the amount allocated to the State for 1994-95; head-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) The amount allocated and released to Maharashtra for construction, repairs and maintenance of National Highways in the State during the last three years is as under :-

Year	Construction (Allotment)	(Rs. in lakhs)	Maintenance and Repairs Amount released)
1991-92	3358.00		1620.90
1992-93	3280.00		1506.67
1993-94	3080.00		1815.54

(b) The amount spent as reported by the State is as under :-

Year	Construction (Allotment)	(Rs. in lakhs)	Maintenance and Repairs (Amount released)
1991-92	3386.23		1929.47
1992-93	3510.75		1051.02
1993-94	5217.52		2125.56

(c) The amount allocated to the State for 1994-95; head-wise is as under :-

Year	Construction (Rs. in lakhs)	Maintenance and Repairs
1994-95	2600.00	833.40 (upto 6/94)

[Translation]

Oil Selection Board

2202. SHRI KESHRI LAL : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the composition of the Oil Selection Board for Uttar Pradesh;

(b) whether the Government have issued any directives to this Board for recommending the dealership for petrol pumps;

(c) whether the recommendations of the Board are obligatory;

(d) the total number of recommendations made by the Board for dealership of, petrol pumps in Uttar Pradesh till June 30, 1994 and the district-wise details thereof; and

(e) the number of such recommendations accepted by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) (a) to (e) Oil Selection Boards have been appointed by the Government for selection of dealers/distributors of petroleum products on the basis of the interviews of the eligible candidates who apply in response to the advertisements of the oil marketing companies. Recommendations of the Oil Selection Boards are not referred to Government for consideration. These are sent by them to the concerned oil companies for issue of Letter of Intent.

Composition of the Oil Selection Board for Uttar Pradesh is as under :-

- | | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|----------|
| (i) Justice Shri S. H. Abidi (Retd) | - | Chairman |
| (ii) Vacant | - | Member |
| (iii) Shri J. N. Tiwari | - | Member |

Based on the recommendations of the Oil Selection Board (U.P.), oil companies have issued 102 Letter of Intent for retail outlets.

Petrol/Diesel Outlets/L.P.G. Agencies in Gujarat

2203. SHRI KASHIRAM RANA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Gujarat have sent any proposal for opening more Petrol, Diesel retail outlets and L.P.G. agencies in all district headquarters of the State;

(b) if so, the present position thereof; and

(c) the reasons for the delay in according approval to these proposals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[English]

Metallurgical Coke

2204. SHRI PHOOL CHAND VERMA: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether metallurgical coke for zinc plants has been imported despite its availability in abundance in the country; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV) :

(a) and (b). Government has constituted an enquiry committee to examine the matter of important of metallurgical coke by Hindustan Zinc Limited. Committee's report is awaited.

Foreign Aid in Power Sector

2205. SHRI NITISH KUMAR :
SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) the total amount of foreign aid received during 1993-94 in power sector and the amount remained unutilised;

(b) the reasons for not utilising the aid in full; and

(c) the power generation capacity expected to be achieved in the country with this aid?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN

MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYANAIDU) : (a) External assistance is usually released as per the progress of the project. An amount of Rs. 3250.32 Crores of external aid was utilised in power related projects during the financial year 1993-94, leaving a balance of Rs. 31060.09 Crores which would be drawn in subsequent years in accordance with the project implementation schedule.

(b) The reasons behind the slow utilisation of external assistance, inter-alia, are lack of counterpart funds with project authorities particularly in the State Sector, inadequate project preparation, organisational weaknesses of the implementing agencies, procurement delays, and other bottlenecks/constraints in regard to land acquisition, environmental and various clearances etc.

(c) 31 large power projects under various stages of construction with the external assistance when completed are expected to yield a generation capacity of 14663.5 MW generation capacity.

New Telephones

2206. PROF. UMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

a) the target fixed for installation of new telephones during 1994-95, State-wise; and

(b) the number of telephones actually installed so far, State-Wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) and (b). The information is given in the attached Statement.

STATEMENT

Sl. No.	Name of the State	DELS Target for 1994-95	Achievements 1994-95 upto 30.6.94	Revised Dels Target (See note below)
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	82,000	26,972	140000
2.	Assam	10,000	3,631	10000
3.	Bihar	35,000	6,777	35000
4.	Gujarat (includes Diu, Dadar, Daman and Nagar Haveli)	80,500	13,846	150000
5.	Haryana	22,000	9,546	60000
6.	Himachal Pradesh	12,000	5,311	12000
7.	J& K	4,000	110	4000
8.	Karnataka	79,000	16,879	154000
9.	Kerala (includes Lakshadweep U.T.)	79,000	12,408	90000

Sl. No.	Name of the State	DELS Target for 1994-95	Achievements 1994-95 upto 30.6.94	Revised Dels Target (See note below)
1	2	3	4	5
10.	M.P.	57,000	8,547	128000
11.	North East (includes Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Tripura States)	8,000	759	8000
12.	Maharashtra (includes Goa State) (excludes MTNL Bombay)	1,07,000	8697	187000
13.	Orissa	3,000	4,049	8000
14.	Punjab (includes Chandigarh UT)	70,500	7,837	168000
15.	Rajasthan	67,000	7,838	151000
16.	Tamil Nadu (includes Pondicherry U.T.)	1,52,000	10,947	290000

Sl. No.	Name of the State	DELS Target for 1994-95	Achievements 1994-95 upto 30.6.94	Revised Dels Target (See note below)
		3	4	5
17.	U.P.	82,000	19,211	146000
18.	W.B. (includes Sikkim State)	71,000	10,380	129000
19.	Delhi MTNL	2,60,000	13,020	1055000
20.	Bombay MTNL	14,000	21,752	
	Total:	14,26,000	2,08,517	2925000

Note: On availability of additional funds and equipment on leasing basis, the targets will be revised as at Col. 5) above.

Growth of Food Processing Sector

2207. SHRI S. M. LALJAN BASHA : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) the details of sector-wise growth in food processing sector during Eighth Plan Period;

(b) whether growth in the marine fisheries sector has been quite slow; and

(c) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUNGOGI) : (a) It is envisaged that during the Eighth Plan period, the average annual growth rate of fruits and vegetable products, snack foods, consumer products, fermented foods, confectionery, milk products and processed fish products will be high, whereas growth rate of cereal products, cocoa products, soya based products, bakery products, meat and poultry products, soft drinks and waters, etc., are expected to be moderate. Other food products are also expected to have positive growth.

(b) The growth of marine fish production during the last three years is :

Year	Percentage Annual growth Rate
1991-92	6.39
1992-93	5.27
1993-94	4.43

(c) The Government is encouraging deep sea fishing and diversification of existing deep sea fishing fleet to tap the hitherto unexploited resources.

Telephone Connections in Gujarat :

[English]

2208. SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of telephone subscribers at present in Gujarat, district-wise;

(b) the number of persons on the waiting list, district-wise;

(c) the number of persons registered during 1991-92 and 1992-93 and the number of persons cut of them given telephone connections; and

(d) the time by which telephone connections are likely to be given to the remaining persons ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) and (b). Information is given in the Statement attached.

(c) Information is being compiled and will be placed on the Table of House.

(d) National Telecom. Policy 1994 envisages the provision of telephone connections practically on demand by 1.4.1997 all over the country.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) and (b). Information is given in the Statement attached.

(c) Information is being compiled and will be placed on the Table of House.

(d) National Telecom. Policy 1994 envisages the provision of telephone connections practically on demand by 1.4.1997 all over the country.

STATEMENT

DISTRICT-WISE NO. OF TELEPHONE SUBSCRIBERS IN GUJARAT AND NUMBER OF PERSONS ON THE WAITING LIST AS ON 30.6.94

Sl No.	Name of District	No. of Subscribers	Waiting list	
1	2	3	3	4
1.	Ahmedabad	1,99,437	1,99,437	52,301
2.	Amreli	6,939	6,939	2,268
3.	Banaskantha (Palanpur)	16,419	16,419	4,741
4.	Bhavnagar	21,849	21,849	12,226
5.	Bharuch	20,449	20,449	4,571
6.	Dangs	322	322	18
7.	Gandhinagar	10,040	10,040	1,352
8.	Jamnagar	20,011	20,011	3,512
9.	Junagadh	25,284	25,284	5,068
10.	Kheda (Nadiad)	37,547	37,547	5,068

Sl. No.	Name of District	No. of Subscribers	Waiting list
1	2	3	4
11.	Kutch (Bhuj)	21,215	6,040
12.	Mehsana	34,230	12,045
13.	Panchmahal (Godhra)	12,263	3,527
14.	Rajkot	52,221	12,504
15.	Sadarkantha (Himatnagar)	17,675	2,433
16.	Surat	78,008	42,687
17.	Surendranagar	13,277	1,608
18.	Vadodara	57,102	26,549
19.	Valsad	24,485	10,984

Assignment of Work to Dredging Corporation of India

2209. SHRI RAMASHRY PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Dredging Corporation of India has been assigned the work of Dredging and toning of the basin of Tapi river at Hazira;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Dredging Corporation of India has suffered losses as a result of the agreement entered into with private companies; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and the quantum thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) and (b). Dredging Corporation of India took up dredging in a limited area in the Tapi river in order to meet the navigational requirements only.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The loss amounting to Rs. 6 crores is due to the low output of C.S.D. 'Aquarius' for which technical training from Dutch firm was not forthcoming.

[English]

Indian Missions

2210. SHRIMATI DIL KUMARI BHANDARI : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 79 dated July 25, 1994 and to state the reasons for not setting up of mission in these countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA) : The opening of a new Embassy/Mission in countries, where presently there is no Indian diplomatic presence, is decided in the context of financial

constraints and on existing political, economic, commercial and other requirements. These factors are constantly and regularly reviewed and as and when found favourable, a decision is taken to open a new Mission.

Crude Oil Refining Capacity

2211. SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR :
SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have fixed any target regarding crude oil refining capacity in the country by the end of this country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether several oil refining projects are still under construction;

(d) if so, the names along with their capacity and cost of production thereof;

(e) the scheduled time by which the construction of these projects was to be completed; and

(f) the details of the projects lagging behind the schedule?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) : (a) and (b). The projected demand of Petroleum Products from the year 2001-2002 is estimated to be approximately 102 MMTPA. Present refining capacity in the country is 53.4 MMTPA. Considering the proposed expansion of existing refineries and based on the LOI issued till now to various parties, the refining capacity is expected to increase to around 121 MMTPA for meeting the estimated demand of petroleum products by 2001-2002.

(c) to (f) The details of Public Sector oil refining projects under construction, their

capacity, cost and scheduled time of completion are as follows :-

Sl. No.	Name of the project	Capacity (in MMTPA)	Approved cost (Rs. Crores)	Approved time of completion
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Digboi refinery Modernisation	0.15	346.34	2.2.96
2.	Panipat refinery	6.0	3868	6.4.97
3.	Mangalore refinery & Petrochemical Ltd.	3.00	1160	10.4.95
4.	BRPL expansion	1.00	222.90	31.12.94
5.	CRL expansion Cochin	3.00	481.24	16.3.5
6.	Numaligarh Refineries Numaligarh	3.00	1830	15.7.97

National Highways in Assam

2212. SHRI PROBIN DEKA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the amount allocated and released to Assam during each of the last three years for construction, repair and maintenance of National Highways in the State; and

(b) the head-wise amount allocated to the State for these purposes in 1994-95?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) The amount allocated and released to Assam during the last three years for construction repair and maintenance of National Highways are as under :-

Year	Construction	Maintenance and Repairs
	(Rs. in lakhs)	
1991-92	1225.00	10.18.09
1992-93	1275.00	1039.62
1993-94	1400.00	1355.22

(b) The head-wise details of the amount allocated/released to the State for the year 1994-95 is as under :-

Year	Construction	Maintenance and Repairs
	(Rs. in lakhs)	
1994-95	1400.00	714.34 (upto 6/94)

Telecom Network in Kerala

2213. PROF. K. V. THOMAS : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether BPL group has submitted a proposal to start a fully intergrated telecommunications network in Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action being taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) M/s. BPL Systems & Projects, Bangalore have submitted proposals to provide basic telephone services in Kerala.

They have proposed three alternatives for Networking-

- i) Parallel network in 15 cities/Towns only,
- ii) To takeover one or two district fully and
- iii) Parallel network in 12 exchanges (where shortfall is 2K or more) in Trichur Dist.

(c) The guidelines to be laid down in respect of National Telecom Policy '94 are under active consideration of the Government based upon which decision will be taken on the proposal.

Telephone Bills in Maharashtra

2214. SHRI ANNA JOSHI : Will the

Minister of COMMUNICATION be pleased to state :

(a) the number of disputes relating to Telephone bills pending with Consumers Protection Forum in Maharashtra;

(b) the estimated loss suffered by the Government on this account; and

(c) the steps being taken to settle these cases at the earliest?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) to (c). The information is being collected and the same will be laid on the Table of the House.

Exploration of Gas in Southern States

2215. SHRI S. B. SIDNAL : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the places in Southern States where exploration of oil and natural gas has been undertaken by ONGC during the last three years; and

(b) the progress made in this regard so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA). (a) During the last three years (1991-92 to 1993-94) exploratory drilling for hydrocarbons has been carried out at 48 places in Andhra Pradesh and 47 places in Tamil Nadu in the southern States. In addition seismic surveys have also been conducted in a number of places.

(b) In Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu after carrying out seismic surveys, a total of 139 wells have been drilled during the above period out of which 40 wells have proved to be hydrocarbon bearing. As on 1.4.1994, geological reserves of 109.84 MMt of Oil and Oil equivalent of gas (OEG) have been established.

[Translation]

National Highways in Maharashtra

2216. SHRI TEJSINGRAO RHONSLE : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the details of Highways in Maharashtra which the State Government had requested to be declared as National Highways from 1985 onwards; and

(b) the number and names of highways which have so far been declared as National Highways in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) and (b). The State Government of Maharashtra have projected eleven proposals aggregating to a length of 4,792 km for declaration as new National Highways. In February, 1989, the declaration as new National Highways. In February, 1989, the Nizamabad-Jagdalpur Road was included in the National Highway grid as N.H.16 which incidentally covers about 30 km length in Maharashtra State. However, on account of meagre allocation of funds under the Central Sector Roads programme and other priority considerations, it has not been possible to make further additions to the National Highway system in Maharashtra.

[English]

Condition of Delhi Roads

2217. SHRI PREM CHAND RAM : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the condition of roads in Delhi has deteriorated due to lack of funds provided by the Union Government;

(b) if so, whether there is any proposal to

allocate adequate funds to the Delhi Government for the necessary repairs of the link roads; and

(c) the time by which the funds are likely to be provided?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (c) This Ministry is responsible for the development and maintenance of National Highway only. The National Highways in Delhi are being maintained in traffic-worthy condition within the available funds. All roads other than National Highways in Delhi are the responsibility of the State Government.

LPG Facility in Midnapore District, West Bengal

2218. SHRISATYAGOPAL MISRA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

the steps taken by the Government to provide LPG facility to the people of Durgachak and Panskura and Egra of the Midnapore district, West Bengal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) Subject to economic viability and product availability, locations having population of 20,000 and above are considered for setting up of LPG distributorships in a phased manner. There is no proposal to set up LPG distributorships at Durgachak, Panskura and Egra of district Midnapore, West Bengal in the current LPG Marketing Plan 1992-94.

[Translation]

Vehicular Pollution

2219. SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state the steps

taken or proposed to be taken to implement the provisions to seize those vehicles for a month which spread pollution more than the prescribed limit as per the order of the High Court?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): In compliance to the High Court order, Transport Department, Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi have been regularly deploying Pollution Enforcement Teams to check vehicular pollution and 926 vehicles have been impounded so far for violating the prescribed pollution standards.

[English]

Mineral Availability in Tripura

2220. SHRIMATI BIBHU KUMARI DEVI : Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether any survey has been conducted to assess the mineral availability in Tripura;

(b) if so, the findings thereof;

(c) whether a study of the economic feasibility for their commercial exploitation has been made; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Economically viable deposits of good quality clay suitable for manufacture of sanitary wares, etc. have been established at Mohanpur-Bamutia-Kumarghat, Champamura, Baldakhal, Jagindra Nagar sand have been reported from Bisramganj and old Agartala town areas.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Kidnapping of India Girls by Pak Army

2221. SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Indian girls kidnapped by the army personnel of Pakistan from the villages situated on the Indian borders during each of the last three years;

(b) the brief details of kidnapped Hindu girls living in Pakistan;

(c) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "Manvadhikar Ayog Ki report: Pakistan mein Hindu ladkiyon ke upharan ki ghatnayan badhi" appearing in the Dainik Jagran dated July 13, 1994; and

(d) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein and the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA) : (a) and (b) Government are not aware of any such incidents.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Government have consistently taken the view that it is the duty of the Government of Pakistan to protect the rights of the citizens, including those belonging to the minority communities.

Investment from Venezuela

2222. SHRI RAM KAPSE : Will the Minister Of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any proposal from the Venezuelan Government for investment in mining sector of the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM

SINGH YADAV): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Import of Copper Semis

2223. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal for a differential import duty structure for unwrought copper, semis and finished goods;

(b) whether there has been an inordinate delay in taking a final decision in this regard;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) the effect of the delay in decision making on the copper semis and allied units;

(e) whether the import of copper semis and finished products will lead to retrenchment of workers; and

(f) if so, the steps proposed by the Government to protect the workers interests?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) For the present government has decided not to make any change in the import duty structure of copper.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

(e) and (f). Problems of domestic downstream products are expected to be taken care of by value addition.

Food Processing Industries

2224. SHRI YELLAIAH NANDI : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) the names and other details of industries included in the category of food processing industries; and

(b) the growth rate of industries in the

food processing sector for the last three years, year-wise? and state-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) Broadly the food processing industries include cereals and pulses processing including milling, oil milling, edible oils, fats like vanaspati, cereals and pulses based products, fruits, vegetables and nuts processing, spices processing, bakery products, pasta products, edible starch, sorbitol, soya based products, milk products, baby food, weaning food, malted food, meat, poultry and egg processing, fish processing, fermented foods, potable alcohol, beer, wines, carbonated and non-carbonated beverages and waters and other beverages, cocoa products, confectionery, sweets, snack foods, fast foods, ready-to-eat foods, sugar, gur, khandasari and other sugar, honey processing, certain food additives like edible guar gum, etc.

Some of the above industries however do not come under the purview of this Ministry.

(b) The State-wise information is not

being centrally maintained.

Alumina Plant in Andhra Pradesh

2225. S H R I
SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity of bauxite available in our country state-wise;

(b) whether any proposal for the setting up of an alumina plant in North Coastal Andhra Pradesh has been lying pending with the Government;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the time by which the project proposal will be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) As per National Mineral Inventory, recoverable reserves of bauxite in India as on 1.4.1990 are given below:-

State	(Unit : '000 tonnes) Bauxite reserves
Andhra Pradesh	592,001
Bihar	61,104
Goa	28,089
Gujarat	107,744
Jammu & Kashmir	1,783
Karnataka	27,416
Kerala	140,791
Madhya Pradesh	140,791
Maharashtra	87,250

State	(Unit : '000 tonnes) Bauxite reserves
Meghalaya	896
Orissa	1,442,276
Rajasthan	318
Tamil Nadu	18,327
Uttar Pradesh	9,420

(b) to (d) The following three applications have been received by the Government for setting up of 100% export Oriented Alumina projects in the State of Andhra Pradesh:-

received by the Government till date ;

(c) whether some foreign companies have sought reduction in royalty rates; and

(d) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) Any company registered in India is eligible for grant of prospecting licence/mining lease in respect of non-fuel and non-atomic minerals.

(b) The Government has not received any assurance from foreign investors.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Periodical revision in the rates of the royalty on minerals is made as per the relevant provisions of the MM (R&D) Act, 1957.

- (i) M/s. Hindustan Development Corporation (HDC)
- (ii) M/s. Birla Technical Services (BTS); and
- (iii) M/s. Kandula Aluminium Company Limited.

M/s. HDC have since withdrawn their application. The remaining two applications are for setting up of Alumina Plants in the coastal districts of Andhra Pradesh and are under consideration of the Government.

Foreign Investment in Mining

[Translation]

2226. SHRIMATI KRISHNENDRA KAUR (DEEPA) :
SHRI LOKANATH CHOUDHURY :

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the major and minor minerals that can be offered for exploitation by the multinationals;

(b) the foreign investment assurance

Production And Consumption of Gold

2227. SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY :
SHRI DATTA MEGHE :
SHRI VISHWANATH SHASTRI :

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) the locations and other details of gold mines in the country;

(b) the details of profits earned/losses suffered by these mines during the last three years, year-wise;

(c) whether the gold consumption in the country is the highest in the world;

(d) if so, the annual gold consumption in the country for the last three years, year-wise;

(e) whether the Government is unable

to meet the present demand for gold in the country; and

(f) if so, the steps taken by the Government to increase gold production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV) : (a) The location of the gold mines of Bharat Gold mines Limited (BGML) and Hutti Gold Mines Limited (HGML) are as follows :

Owner/Mines	Location District	State
1	2	3
BGML		
(i)	Yeppamana	Anantpur
(ii)	Chigargunta Phase I	Chittoor
(iii)	Chigargunta Phase II	-do-
(iv)	Old Bisanatham	-do-
(v)	Mysore Champion Amalgamated	Kolar
(vi)	Nundyroog	-do-
HGML		
(i)	Kutti	Raichur
(ii)	Mangalur	Gulbarga

Andhra Pradesh

-do-

-do-

-do-

Karnataka

-do-

-do-

-do-

(b) The profit earned/losses suffered by Bharat Gold Mines Ltd., and Hutti Gold/

Mines Ltd., during the last three years are as under :-

(Rs. in crores Profit + Loss -)

Year	Bharat Gold Mines Ltd.	Hutti Gold Mines Ltd.
1991-92	- 42.28	+ 21.55
1992-93	- 34.30	+ 1.50
1993-94	- 35.44	+ 5.32

* Provisional

(c) to (f). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Diamond Mining

2228. SHRI DATTA MEGHE :
SHRIMATI GIRIJA DEVI :
SHRI D. VENKATESWARA
RAO :
SHRI BOLLABULLIRAMIAH
SHRI SRIKANTA JEN:
SHRI R. DHANUSKODI
ATHITHANN :
SHRI M. V. V. S. MURTHY :

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) the location and other details of Diamond mines in the country;

(b) the profits earned/losses suffered

by these mines during the last three years year-wise;

(c) whether the Government have conducted any survey to reassess the availability of diamonds in the country;

(d) if so, the new sites identified so far;

(e) whether the Government have received proposals from the International Diamond Mining Companies for undertaking mining work in the country, especially in Andhra Pradesh;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the decision taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV) : (a) Details of the diamond mines in our country are given below:-

Name of Mine	Location	
	District	State
Majhgawan	Panna	Madhya Pradesh
Shallow	Panna	Madhya Pradesh

(b) The profit/Loss position of these

mines during the last three years, year-wise is given below :-

Year	Profit/Loss
1991-92	(+) Rs. 79.51 lakh profit
1992-93	(-) Rs. 82.67 " Loss
1993-94	(-) Rs. 98.06 " Loss

(c) and (d). Recent survey conducted has led to the discovery of three new sites of diamond bearing Kimberlite pipes at Bahradih, Payalikhanda and Jangra areas of Raipur District, Madhya Pradesh. GSI had earlier reported diamond bearing Kimberlite pipes in Wajrakarur, Venkatampalle and Chigicherla areas of Anantpur district, Andhra Pradesh.

(e) As per the provision of the Mines and Minerals (Regulation and Development) Act, 1957, such proposals are to be made to and decisions thereon are to be taken only by the concerned State Governments.

(f) and (g). Does not arise.

Delhi Passport Office

2229. SHRI B. L. SHARMA PREM : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether passport are issued after much delay from Regional Passport Office, New Delhi;

(b) if so, whether the Government have fixed any time limit for issuing passport; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the number of applicants to whom the passports have not been issued during the last three months within the prescribed time limit and

the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) The time taken by a Passport Office for issue of passports varies from office to office and depends on a number of factors including staff strength, workload, office infrastructure and completion of prescribed procedures. In all cases where documentation is complete a passport is issued in about four weeks.

(c) As against 30,137 passports issued between 1 May and 31 July 1994 by Regional Passport Office Delhi, 2170 applications are pending due to non-receipt of necessary documentation/verification, for example, proof of stay, correct/complete address, name of father/husband, date of birth, and police verification, etc.

Working Group

2230. SHRI S. M. LALJAN BASHA :
SHRI MOHAN SINGH
(DEORIA) :
SHRI RAMESH
CHENNITHALA :
SHRI YELLAIAH NANDI :
SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to

state :

(a) whether during the recent visit of Chinese delegations to the country, both countries decided to set up Joint Working Groups in the Steel Sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the sectors where Chinese cooperation has been sought;

(d) whether efforts are being made for securing Chinese investment in the various steel plants in the country;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the details of agreements on Capital Investment in the Steel sector signed during the visit of the Chinese delegation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHANDEV) : (a) and (b). An eight member delegation led by Mr. Wu Xichun, Vice Minister, Ministry of Metallurgical Industry, People's Republic of China visited India in July, 1994, and held discussions with the Government on several issues pertaining to the steel sector. No agreement has been signed during the visit of delegation. However, both sides agreed to set up Working Groups to cover the following areas :-

(i) Working Group on Technical Cooperation in the Steel Sector.

(ii) Working Group on Iron Ore and Manganese Ore.

(iii) Working Group on Imports and Exports of Steel Products.

(c) The following areas have been identified in general as relevant to Indo-Chinese cooperation in the steel sector :

1. Joint Ventures in both
2. Joint Participation in third country projects.
3. Utilisation in India of mini blast furnace and pulverised coal injection technologies which have been successfully introduced in China.
4. Transfer of technology to produce directly reduced iron, (DRI) from India to China.
5. Export of iron-ore from India to china and Joint sector participation by China in iron-ore mining.
6. Import of coking-coal by India from China.
7. Export of steel from India to China.

(d) to (e). Metallurgical & Engineering Consultants India Limited (MECON) is providing pulverised coal injection technology on the basis of know-how from their licensor, M/s. Central Engineering and Research Incorporation, Beijing (CERI) of China, while M/s. Simplex, an Indian firm, has signed an agreement with M/s. China Metallurgical Import & Export Corporation for Mini blast furnace technology.

(f) A list of joint ventures in the iron and steel sector between India and China is given in the Statement attached.

STATEMENT

List of Joint Ventures & Technological Collaborations between India and China

Sl. No.	Name of the company & Location	Name of the foreign collaborator	Item of manufacture and capacity	% foreign Equity share & Amount
1	2	3	4	5
1.	M/s. Mid-East Integrated Steels Ltd., Kalinga nagar Industrial Unit, Orissa	M/s. China Metallurgical Import & Export Corp., China	Pig Iron Cap-0.5 Mtpa	4.5% Rs.538 lacs) NRI holding 15.62% (Rs. 1846.36 lacs.)
2.	M/s. Simplex Engg. & Foundary Works Ltd. New Delhi	i) M/s. China Metallurgical Import & Export Corp., China (ii) M/s. Beijing Central Engg. & Research Inc. China	Supply of Engg. Draughting for setting up of mini blast furnace etc. -do-	24% Total 4% of the paid up capital of Rs. 320.0 lacs 25%
3.	M/s. Simplex Engg. & Foundary Works Ltd., New Delhi	M/s. Baosteel Engg. & Construction Corp. China	Technical/Project consultancy services in the field of metallurgical industries	49% of the paid up capital of Rs. 64.0 lacs

Sl. No	Name of the company & Location	Name of the foreign collaborator	Item of manufacture and capacity	% foreign Equity share & Amount
1	2	3	4	5
4.	M/s. Simplex Engg. & Foundary works Ltd., New Delhi	M/s. China National technical Import & Export Corpn., China	Turnkey Supply of various sizes of mini blast furnace project	US \$ 20.47 Lacs
5.	M/s. Simplex Engg. & Foundary works Ltd., New Delhi.	-do-	Turnkey supply of various sizes of mini LD Converters for manufacture of Steel.	US \$ 11.2 lacs
6.	M/s. Nagpur Alloy Castings Ltd., Nagpur	M/s. China Shongang International Trade and Engineering China	Non-Alloy Pig Iron	US \$ 6.46 lacs

[Translation]

Declaration of National Highways in Madhya Pradesh

2231. SHRI KHELAN RAM JANGDE : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Committee on Transport had recommended to convert seven roads of Madhya Pradesh into national highways in 1984;

(b) whether the Government of Madhya Pradesh had informed the Union Government in this regard in November 1985; and

(c) if so, the time by which these roads are likely to be declared as national highways?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (c). The N.T.P.C. (National Transport Policy Committee) in its report submitted in May, 1980, had inter-alia recommended nine roads in respect of Madhya Pradesh as new National Highways. Two roads had already been declared as new National Highways in the past. However, owing to meagre allocation of funds for National Highways in the 8th Five Year Plan, it is difficult to declare more new National Highways at this stage.

[English]

Gold Deposits in Kerala and West Bengal

2232. SHRI CHITTA BASU :
SHRI MULLAPPALLY
RAMCHANDRAN :

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether large deposits of gold have

been found in Kerala and West Bengal;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any study has been conducted to ascertain the economic viability for commercial exploitation of gold from these areas; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV) : (a) and (b). So far no significant gold deposits have been located in Kerala and West Bengal. However, encouraging gold values have been reported from quartz veins and amphibolite schist rocks in Palakkad district and in places in Nilambur Valley, Kerala.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Setting up of Steel Plants

2233. SHRI HARCHAND SINGH : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any proposal from NRIs/MNCs for entering into a joint venture for the setting up a steel plant in Punjab; and

(b) if so the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) (a) The Central Government have not received any proposal from NRIs/MNCs for entering into a joint venture for the setting up a steel plant in Punjab.

(b) Does not arise.

years, State-Wise?

Closure of MICA Mines

2234. DR. P. R. GANGWAR : Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state the number of Mica Mines that have been closed down in the country during the last three

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV) As per the information available with Indian Bureau of Mines the number of Mica Mines that have been closed in the country during the last three years State-Wise are as follows :-

State	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94
Andhra Pradesh	9	20	18
Bihar	40	35	38
Rajasthan	6	2	6
Total	55	57	62

[English]

1993-94.

Export of Steel Rails

2235. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) the details of countries to which steel rails are exported by Bhilai Steel Plant;

(b) the number of rails exported in 1992-93 and 1993-94 and the foreign exchange earned therefrom; and

(c) the projected export figures of rails during 1994-95 by Bhilai plant?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHANDEV) (a) Presently Bhilai Steel Plant is not exporting steel rails.

(b) There has been no export of steel rails by Bhilai Steel Plant during 1992-93 and

(c) There is no plan for export of steel rails by Bhilai Steel Plant during 1994-95.

Central Road Fund Assistance to Gujarat

2236. SHRI ARVIND TRIVEDI : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the projects/schemes submitted by Government of Gujarat during 1993-94 for getting assistance from Central Road Fund (CRF); and

(b) the action taken or proposed to be taken in respect of these projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). During 1993-94, the Govt. of Gujarat submitted five schemes costing Rs. 700.00

lakh relating to roads and bridges for getting assistance from Central Road Fund. Since the Govt. of Gujarat have utilised their share and no free balance is available as per old Resolution, these proposals could not be approved at this stage.

[Translation]

Extraction of IRON Ore

2237. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have sanctioned financial assistance to iron ore extraction units in the tertiary sector; and

(b) if so, the places where the production units are proposed to be set up and the time by which they are likely to commence production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) (a) and (b). Government has not sanctioned any financial assistance for iron ore extraction units in the private sector.

Zinc Caloine at Hindustan Zinc Ltd.

2238. SHRI TEJ NARAYAN SINGH : Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) Whether the Government have procured zinc calcine at uncompetitive rates from a private concern despite its availability in abundance in the Vishakhapatnam Unit of Hindustan Zinc Limited; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM

SINGH YADAV) : (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Loss to Shipping Corporation of India Ltd.

2239. SHRI TEJ NARAYAN SINGH : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether clearance has been given to the Shipping Corporation of India Ltd. to sell two ships;

(b) whether delay in giving clearance to the proposal by the Government has caused loss to the Corporation; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Hindalco

2240. SHRI LALIT ORAON : Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether about twenty years ago HINDALCO had entered into an agreement with the State Government of Bihar for setting up of bauxite based industries in Lohardaga, Gumla and Palamau districts of Bihar;

(b) if so, whether HINDALCO has not yet implemented this agreement;

(c) whether there is any proposal for implementation of this agreement;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV) : (a) to (e). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Breakdown in Northern Grid

2241. SHRI ANANTRAO DESHMUKH : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) the reasons for deterioration of Northern Grid frequency position which lead to major power breakdowns in many parts of the capital during June 1994; and

(b) the steps taken by the Government to provide uninterrupted power supply to the residents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYANAIDU) : (a) Due to shortage of coal and oil there was sudden reduction of power generation from 17th to 22nd June, 1994 in the Singrauli and Rihand Super Thermal Power Stations. Consequently frequency position in the Northern Grid deteriorated, thereby affecting power supply in June, 1994. The frequency position also deteriorated due to :

- (i) heavy agricultural demand
- (ii) weather beating loads due to high temperature
- (iii) reduced generation at Gas Stations due to restrictions imposed by GAIL on gas supply and
- (iv) overdrawal by constituents including DESU.

(b) The steps taken to provide uninterrupted power supply to the residents of Delhi include:

- (i) extensive maintenance and strengthening/augmentation of the transmission and distribution system.
- (ii) Installation of shunt capacitors.
- (iii) Periodical monitoring of the power supply position in Delhi by a Task Force.
- (iv) Checks on thefts and other violations relating to use of electricity.
- (v) Reduction in transmission and distribution losses.
- (vi) Maximising power generation at Indraprastha Thermal Power Station, Rajghat Power Station and Gas Turbine Power Stations.

The long term measures to augment the power supply position in Delhi include :-

Installation of a 102 MW additional generating capacity in the form of Waste Heat Recovery Units at the existing Gas Turbine Stations

Installation of 400/450 MW Combined Cycle Power Plant at Bawana and

Establishment of a 400 KV Transmission Ring around Delhi for facilitating easy import of power from the Central Power Stations in

the Northern Region.

Criteria for Additional Lanes

2242. SHRI GABHAJI MANGAJI THAKORE : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state the criteria laid down for construction of additional lanes to the National Highways?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): The basic criteria for widening of National Highways from single lane to two lanes is when daily traffic volume exceeds 1,000 PCUs (Passenger-Car-Units) and from two lanes to four lanes when the daily traffic volume exceeds 15,000 PCUs.

Widening of National Highway No. 8

2243. SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal for four laning of Gujarat Maharashtra border section of National Highway No. 8;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the position of the road that will remain two laned; and

(d) the traffic in terms of CVD and PCU this two laned section is likely to cater to?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) to (c) Presumably Hon'ble Member is seeking information about Vadodara-Gujarat/Maharashtra border section of NH 8.

Out of total length of 277 km in Vadodara-Gujarat/Maharashtra border Section, 66 km in stretches is already four laned and work of four laning is in progress in 65 km. Another 21.50 km is included for sanction in the Annual Plan 1994-95. Rest of the Stretch is two laned.

(d) The traffic on two laned section in terms of CVD and PCU/day is of the order of 11700 and 43200 respectively.

Shortage of Steel

2244. SHRI SANDIPAN BHAGWAN THORAT : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news report appearing in the Indian Express dated July 19, 1994 under the title "Planners in a fix over steel shortage";

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;

(c) details of immediate and long term strategies being worked out or finalised to meet the domestic demand for steel; and

(d) details of the proposals under consideration for foreign investment in the steel sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Various steps have been taken by the Government to increase production of steel in the country to meet the demand. These include :-

- (i) Modernisation and expansion of public sector steel plants;
- (ii) Deregulation of the steel industry and its exemption from the requirements of compulsory licensing to encourage and facilitate the establishment of additional capacity in the private sector;
- (iii) Reduction of customs duty on import of capital goods and inputs for the steel industry to make it more cost competitive.

(d) One proposal from M/s. Mid-east Integrated Steel Ltd. is presently under consideration for foreign investment of Rs. 25 crores by M/s. China metallurgical Import and Export Corporation (CMIEC) in respect of the steel plant being set up jointly by them to manufacture 4.10 lakh tonnes per annum steel long-products at Daitari, Orissa, under the 10% EOU Scheme as a forward integration of their pig iron project which is under implementation.

Diamond and manganese Lease to Multinational

2245. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether certain multinational companies have been given diamond and manganese mining leases in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) whether the State Government had taken prior approval from the Union Government before leasing these mines; and

(c) if not, the reaction of the Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV) : (a) Prospecting Licences and Mining Leases are given by the concerned State Governments as per provisions of the Mines and Minerals (Regulation and development) Act, 1957. In case of companies, the Act envisaged that a mining lease/prospecting licence can be given only to a company in which majority of the Directors were Indian citizens and not less than sixty per cent of the share capital was held by persons who are either citizens of India or companies as defined in the Companies Act, 1956. This Act was amended on 25.1.1994 and it now permits grant of a prospecting licence or a mining lease only to a company as defined in sub-section (1) of section 3 of the Companies Act, 1956.

(b) and (c). Does not arise.

Damages to National Highways in Madhya Pradesh

2246. SHRI SURAJ BHANU SOLANKI :
SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHAUHAN :

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the length of the National Highways passing through Madhya Pradesh;

(b) the parts of the National Highways prone to damages due to natural calamities and heavy traffic in the State; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to protect the National Highways from

natural calamities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) 2946 Kms.

(b) and (c). There is no specific part of Section of National Highways in Madhya Pradesh which is prone to damage on account of Natural Calamities. However, stretches that got damaged due to floods etc. are restored within the available funds for maintenance.

Food Processing Industries in Kerala.

2247. SHRI THAYIL JOHN ANJALOSE : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the proposals received for setting up of food processing industries in Kerala during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) the time by which these proposals are likely to be cleared;

(c) whether proposals for foreign investment in this sector have also been received; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUNGOGOI): (a) to (d). During the last three years, 26 proposals have been approved for setting up 100% Export-Oriented Units in the Food Processing Sector in Kerala involving a total investment of Rs. 11397.71 lakhs. besides 2 proposals for setting up units in the fermented food sector were rejected. Action has already

been initiated in respect of 7 proposals in the fruit and vegetable processing sector and meat and poultry products sector. In addition, financial assistance amounting to Rs. 186 lakhs has been extended in respect of proposals received from Kerala under different Plan Schemes of the Ministry.

Foreign investment indicated in these proposals amount to Rs. 774.20 lakhs.

National Highways in Kerala

2248. SHRI THAYIL JOHN ANJALOSE: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the total length of National Highways in Kerala;

(b) the steps being taken for the development and maintenance of the National Highways in the State;

(c) the amount sought by the State for the development of its National Highways during the last three years and the corresponding amounts sanctioned by the Union Government, year-wise;

(d) the proposals pending with the Union Government for the construction of Highways and sub roads in the State ;

(e) whether there is any proposal to provide funds for these pending schemes; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE

MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT
(SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) 940 km.

traffic worthy condition with in the available funds.

(b) Development and maintenance of National Highways in the country is a continuous process and they are kept in

(d) The information is tabulated below for development of the National Highways in Kerala during the last three years :-

Year	Amount sought by State Govt.	Amount allocated by Union Govt.
(Rs. in lakhs)		
1991-92	2340.00	1120.00
1992-93	1891.00	1400.00
1993-94	3972.00	3000.00

(d) to (f). Constitutionally, Government of India is responsible for development and maintenance of roads declared as National Highways. All roads other than National Highways are the responsibility of State/UT Governments concerned.

(b) whether any agreements have been finalised in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the foreign companies are hesitant to sign. final agreement on joint ventures in the country; and

(e) if so, the reasons thereof ?

Joint Ventures in Mining and Minerals Sector

2249. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY :
Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) the details of Joint Venture proposals between India's Kudremukh Iron Ore Company, Hindustan Zinc and the mining and mineral companies from foreign countries;

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM
SINGH YADAV) : (a) to (c). Kudremukh Iron
Ore Company Limited has not entered into
any joint venture projects with foreign
companies. Hindustan zinc Limited and
Nuigini Mining Company of Australia have

signed an MOU on 18.7.94 in New Delhi for undertaking evaluation and development of known gold prospects in India.

(d) The Government is not aware of any hesitation on the part of the foreign companies to sign final agreements on joint ventures in the country.

(e) Does not arise.

Modern Technology in Food Processing Industry

2250. SHRI JITENDRA NATH DAS : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to sue state-of-the-art technology in the food preservation and processing sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the policy of the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI) : (a) to (c). In order to modernise food processing industries in the country, Government has liberalised the Industrial Policy in July, 91 to allow food processing industries which have been placed in the priority list, automatic permission for foreign technology agreement within certain parameters. besides, Customs Duty on specified food processing machinery has been reduced.

With a view to encourage these industries to adopt modern technologies and equipment, this Ministry has formulated

several developmental Plan Schemes which encourage research and development for developing low cost technologies, modernise these industries and to adopt new technologies such as pre-cooling and cold chain system, individual quick freezing of marine and processed fruits and vegetable products etc.

A Food Engineering Centre is being set up at the Central Food Technological Research Centre is being set up at the Central Food Technological Research Centre, Mysore for undertaking research and development on machineries and technologies for food processing industries.

[Translation]

Rice Mills

2251. SHRI N. J. RATHVA : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any proposal for the setting up of rice mills in Gujarat during 1994-95;

(b) if so, the district-wise details thereof; and

(c) the time by which these proposals are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Does not arise.

[English]

Wayside Amenities

2252 PROF UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state

(a) whether there is any proposal to abandon the policy of establishing rest and service centres on National Highways in Andhra Pradesh,

(b) if so, the reasons therefor,

(c) if not, the status of implementation of this policy,

(d) the number of such centres selected in the State, and

(e) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) (a) No Sir

(b) Does not arise

(c) This Ministry has an on going scheme for providing Wayside Amenities in Government Sector as well as Private Sector. Petrol retail outlet was made part of these amenities in Private Sector scheme. However, the same has now been withdrawn

(d) and (e) Under the Government Sector scheme in collaboration with Ministry of Tourism, Palamnar on NH 4 in the State of Andhra Pradesh has been identified. The infrastructure facilities have been completed. The Ministry of Tourism has sanctioned the

building portion and work is in progress

Under the Private Sector scheme (started in collaboration with Ministry of Tourism, Palamnar on NH 4 in the State of Andhra Pradesh has been identified. The infrastructure facilities have been completed. The Ministry of Tourism has sanctioned the building portion and work is in progress. Under the Private Sector scheme (started in collaboration with Ministry of Petroleum) letter of intent has been issued to the entrepreneur for setting up Passenger Oriented Wayside Amenities at km 82 of NG 9 in Hyderabad-Vijayawada Section

[Translation]

Steel Plant in Tribal Districts

2253 SHRIN J RATHVA Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government have not accepted a proposal to set up a steel plant in the tribal districts of Gujarat,

(b) if so the reasons therefor

(c) whether the Government propose to reconsider this decision, and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) (a) No proposal has been received from Government of Gujarat to set up a steel plant in the tribal districts of Gujarat

(b) to (d) Do not arise in view of reply at (a) above

Reduction of Gas Flaring*English]*

2254. SHRI ANNA JOSHI : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Maharashtra has presented an alternative proposal for reduction of gas flaring and for effective utilisation of the offshore gas;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) the reasons for not accepting the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) : (a) and (b). The Government of Maharashtra proposed the diversion of additional gas from the western offshore to Maharashtra through a new gas terminal at Bar and higher allocation of gas to units in Maharashtra.

(c) Projects for reduction of gas flaring and effective utilisation of offshore gas have already been approved by the Government and are under implementation.

Compensation for Oil Spill

2255. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have since decided on the amount it should seek as compensation for the 40, 000 tonnes of oil spilled by a Danish tanker off the coast of Great Nicobar Island in January, 1993;

(b) if not, the reasons for its dithering over filing of the Oil spill claim;

(c) the estimated eco damage caused by this oil slick; and

(d) the stage at which the matter stands at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) Yes, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Eco damage caused by the oil slick has been estimated at Rs. 6.75 crores.

(d) The claims for reimbursement of mobilisation, administrative and co-ordination expenses and for eco damage have been filed with the Protection and Indemnity.

12. 00 hrs

[English]

SHRI E. AHAMED (Manjeri): Now I may be permitted to ask that question.

MR. SPEAKER: To whom?

SHRI E. AHAMED: I can put a question only through you, Sir. I may be permitted to raise this point. The hon. Minister for Parliamentary Affairs has already submitted before the House that the opposition parties are likely to attend the House from Monday onwards. Even now, they are not seen. We would like to know what development the Government could make in negotiating with the opposition to have some understanding about the ATR because entire nation is looking toward to this Parliament. The opposition has taken a very hard stand. They are not to budge an inch. We would like to know whether the Government thinks that their attending the House is extremely important.

After that there have been several meetings under your Chairmanship. You would also be having further meetings. That is the position as of now.

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI N.K.P.SALVE): If I may be permitted to supplement the Government stand, we do admit straightway that the role of the Opposition is exceedingly important in any Parliamentary democracy. But I want to make it absolutely clear that we do not, repeat now, want to trample upon the rights of the House only with the help of the majority. That point has been stated and restated several times. Thirdly, so far as the Government is concerned, it takes the matter very very seriously. The hon. Member seems to be feeling that we are happy

about the situation—far from it. We are concerned about it, we are working on it. No one knows better than you so far as this matter is concerned. As a Government we cannot go beyond a point. All that we are saying to them is, please come for discussion, let us discuss. We are willing to leave it to you. That point also has been stated here. Ultimately you must understand, we can take a horse only to the water; we cannot make it drink.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE (Bombay South Central): Mr. Speaker, Sir, late Shrimati Indira Gandhi had nationalised those mills which were running in loss, to let these run smoothly but not to close, but the Government does not supply raw material, cotton and working capital to the mills. It is unable to recover the amount from the person who is responsible for the scam of Rs. four and half thousand crores and can not give money to the labourers who want to run the mills. Mr. Venkat Swamiji is present here, he had said that the Government is not going to close down the mills. I have raised this issue time and again in the House. They have given is a proposal to sell Madhusudan Mill, Sitaram Mill, Kohinoor Mill No.2 and 3, Eastern Mill and Jam Mill. I oppose it and urge upon the Government to withdraw this decision. There are 1654 workers in Kohinoor Mill. The Supreme Court in its verdict has stated that those employees should be taken back. They had made a commitment on 28th February, 1994 and earlier also to re-employ them but they are not being taken back on the name of identification. The reason of loss is the prevailing corruption in the N.T.C. I would like to cite an example. There is a mill named FINLE. In August, 1992, an officer named * was brought in it. Within ten months the loss was increased to the tune

of Rs. ten crore because of him.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: The name will not go on record.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: The mill can run if the officer is competent. Even today mills are lying closed in Bombay and the workers are jobless. The Government should withdraw the proposal of selling the mills. If it does not do so, I have already said and repeating it again that I will sacrifice my life. Therefore, I have decided to go on hunger strike from Tomorrow onwards. Unless the Government starts the closed mills I will be on hunger strikes.

[English]

I am very much thankful to you, Sir.

SHRI SHARAD DIGHE (Bombay North Central): I also join the feelings expressed by Shri Mohan Rawale. In Bombay the question of NTC and other mills is becoming more and more serious. Particularly the sale of excess lands of these mills is going to create further problems unless it is properly handled. In the name of modernisation and merger of mills, many of the mills are going to be closed.

Many further textile employees and workers would become unemployed. Then, the sale of the excess lands, which are very valuable and which would fetch crores of rupees should be very carefully handled. If, for modernisation, sale of excess lands is necessary, then it has to be done through the Government machinery and should be sold only to the public undertakings. The proceeds which will be realised after the sale

must be used only for modernisation of those mills and for paying the dues of the workers, which are due according to law. The Government should take the greatest and utmost care to see that further mills are not closed and those which are closed are started as early as possible to avoid unemployment in Bombay.

SHRI P.G. NARAYANAN (Gobichettipalayam): Mr. Speaker, Sir, shocking details are coming out in news reports that Pakistani Intelligence Agency ISI is circulating fake Indian currency in the North and North-Eastern States. This is a matter of serious concern. The well calculated attempt of ISI is to sabotage the Indian economic development. Already, in India, ISI is used by Pakistan in abetting terrorism. Pakistan has been indulged in blasting bombs in important cities. So, the Pakistani Intelligence Agency has been posing a permanent threat to the integrity and unity of our country. Now the fake notes are being circulated to demoralise our Indian economy.

12. 12 hrs

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair

Sir, I want to know whether such circulation of fake Indian currency has been confined to North and North-Eastern States or it has any ramifications in South India also. I want to know whether any arrest or detention has been made in South India in this regard. Sir, mere recovery of fake notes and some arrests are not enough. Some more concrete steps should be taken to combat this kind of menace. I want to know whether our Indian Government is taking up this matter in any international forum or any other concrete proposal would be thought of in this regard.

DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA

(Balasore): Honourable Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am very much obliged to you that you have called me to make a statement.

I would like to bring to the notice of the august House the serious situation that has now arisen in Orissa State in Koraput District. Hundred people have died out of starvation in Koraput District. News has come out in newspapers today in 'The Hindustan Times' and another newspaper to this effect. The landless labourers, who have been living on a diet of mango kernels and tamarind seed powder and an assortment of non-poisonous leaves were the victims. Sir, they had no source to make out their livelihood. There is no employment. They have no purchasing power also. The local administration is totally callous to help them. The names of thirty seven people has been submitted to the press.

Thirty-seven deaths took place in five villages under Kutinga panchayat in Laxmipur block. Fifteen deaths occurred in Talakuntinga village. Twelve died in Lachmani and four in Dunguripadar village. Sorishapadar and Kanapadhi villages registered three deaths each. All these villages are located by the side of the State Highway. The situation is much more worse in the interior areas.

The possibility of these being gastro deaths has been ruled out according to symptoms.

MR. DEPUTY- SPEAKER: Dr. Kartikeswar Patra, there are four or five other persons from Orissa. They also want to participate.

DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA: The 'ADEPT' scheme sponsored by the late Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, could not be properly adopted in Orissa. That is why

the situation in Kalahandi, Koraput, some portions of Sambalpur, Bolangir and Phulbani districts is very precarious. The State Government has failed to control the situation. The situation is very tense. Immediate necessary steps are required to meet the insurgency.

I would like to request the Union Government to come to the rescue of the people.

SHRI SARAT PATTANAYAK (Bolangir): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, when late Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, visited Koraput, Bolangir, Kalahandi and Phulbani, the 'ADEPT' scheme sponsored by him was continuing in these backward districts of Orissa. But I am very sorry to express my view. When the Janata Dal Government came into power in 1989, they automatically gave instructions to the State Government to abolish that scheme from those areas. From that time, the people of these districts are suffering like anything. The Janata Dal Government in Orissa has totally failed to solve the problems of the people in these backward districts. They have been neglected. So, my request through you is that the Central Government should intervene in this matter. Hundred people have died in Koraput district due to starvation. The Central Government should dismiss the State Government in Orissa. Otherwise, the people in that State cannot live peacefully.

SHRI K. PRADHANI (Nowrangpur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, this incident took place just adjacent to my constituency, that is, in undivided Koraput district. It has happened this year. It is a routine matter every year. Thousands of tribal people die like flies. The State Government does not take any remedial action to prevent such deaths. The fact mentioned in the newspaper is that

there is no food and no work for them. They are taking mango-kernels, tamarind powder and all that which are unfit for human consumption. That is why they are dying.

It has happened in a scheduled area. The Government of India has got powers under the Fifth Schedule of the Constitution to give directions to the State Government. It can also take action against them, under Article 365 of the Constitution, the Government has got powers to dismiss a State Government if things like this happen in a tribal area.

It is a scheduled area. So, I urge upon the Central Government to take immediate steps to supply food and also give work to the people of that area.

[*Translation*]

SHRI KRISHAN DUTT SULTANPURI (Shimla): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am thankful to you for giving me an opportunity to speak. I just returned from the tour of Himachal Pradesh. It has rained these heavily during last few days which has caused havoc in the whole State. Almost all the rivers are overflowing. A large part of agricultural land has been eroded. I would like to submit to the Government through you that on one hand our apple growers have suffered a great loss and on the other hand it has effected the economy of Himachal Pradesh to a great extent. The Central Government should immediately pay attention towards it since such situations were never took place in hill areas before. My submission is that the Central Government should take steps to provide relief to Himachal Pradesh. An immediate grant of 300 crore rupees should be given to Himachal Pradesh. My submission to the hon. Minister who is present here and who is also the incharge of the affairs of Himachal

Pradesh should get a survey conducted of the affected areas and submit a report to the hon. Prime Minister. With these words I thank you.

[*English*]

SHRI A. CHARLES (Trivandrum): Sir, there are thousands of our countrymen working in the gulf countries. It is Kerala which has sent the maximum number of their people in almost every gulf country. These people are working in all areas of activities there. But, it is a pity that our embassies are not taking any steps for their welfare or to solve their problems. The main problem there is that there are several accidental deaths; death under suspicion, death because of disease, etc. and even now dead bodies take two to three months to be given to the houses of their kith and kins. You can understand the agony of the bereaved families when their own dear ones die in a foreign country and they have to wait for the dead bodies. We use to write to the External Affairs Ministry and they take up the matter with the embassy. In spite of that, Sir, last week I had to write again for a dead body, after two and a half months. Today, I heard a telephone call that the whole family is in agony. I humbly request the External Affairs Ministry to take suitable action in this regard.

Because of the crisis in Yemen, hundreds of families are back in Kerala. They had to leave every work, all belongings. They were not able to withdraw their money even though they had their bank balance there. At one stroke they had to leave that country and come to Kerala. Now, in the Immigration Office, in their passport there is a seal that if they want to go back, they will have to pay to and fro fares. All their affairs, all their works are in Yemen. So, I request that the case of Yemen

may be taken up separately and all facilities may be given to them for going back and to join their work so that they may get, at least, their bank balance etc.

SHRI P.C. CHACKO (Trichur): Sir, what Mr. Charles has said is really a very important problem, especially for the people of Kerala because lakhs and lakhs of Keralites are working out in the Gulf countries. It is obligatory on the part of the employer to send back the dead bodies in case of an accidental death. But, according to the rules prevailing in those countries, it has become almost impossible to transfer these dead bodies, even after three or four months. Their dear ones are to wait in their native places. Today, in fact, I had a discussion with the hon. Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs. He is also present here. The Government of India have to take up this matter with the Governments of the Gulf countries. If some measures are not taken to speed up the things, the families, in agony, will have to wait for months and months to see the dead bodies of their beloved ones. It has become very difficult. Accidental deaths are very common there. reasons for these deaths? Many a time, compensation also is not given properly and legally. This is happening there. So, there is always a suspicious atmosphere around this. The Government of India may kindly take up this matter with the various Governments of the Gulf countries so that the agony of the affected people in those countries is minimised.

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR (Mayiladuturai): Sir, I am not an MP from Orissa, but I did have the opportunity of travelling extensively in the areas that have been referred to a little while earlier, where there have been reports now of several deaths, perhaps up to a hundred deaths, may be even more, if we take into account

villages that are off the main highway. The reason why I had the opportunity of travelling so extensively in these areas was that the former Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi had devised a specific programme which was aimed at terminating poverty in these parts of Orissa. This programme was called 'ADEPT', an acronym for 'Area Development for Poverty Termination'. Obviously, poverty termination is not something that can be completed in a short term; it requires action over a prolonged period of time. It was, therefore, decided to take it up in Kalahandi and Koraput on a pilot basis. An announcement was made by Shri Rajiv Gandhi at Titlagarh that it would be extended to the district of Bolangir and then the Government would look at other similarly afflicted areas of Orissa, such as Phulbani and Mayurbhanj.

Now, instead of looking into how we can continue, extend and deepen this programme so that the only part of India which in the 1990s was actually suffering starvation deaths, is saved from this situation, the Government that followed the Government of Shri Rajiv Gandhi both in Orissa, as well as here at the Centre, terminated that programme and no other programme was put in its place. Sir, in the last three years, neither the State Government or Orissa nor the Central Government has made any attempt whatsoever to revive the ADEPT Programme or put in its place an alternative. Under these circumstances, it is inevitable that deaths of the kind that have taken place are taking place. Let us never forget that nothing can be more shameful for modern India than to allow people to die of starvation. It was back in 1966 that Mrs. Gandhi, in this House, proclaimed with pride that no Indian had died in the famine of 1966 and that no Indian would ever be permitted again to die for lack of food. And today, 30

years later, we are faced with a situation where a hundred Oriya fellow citizens of ours have already died and where the situation is bound to get much worse unless the State Government is made to measure up to its responsibility.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Mr. Roshan Lal please.

KUMARI SHSHILA TIRIYA (Mayurbhanj): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, this matter relates to Orissa. I represent the area where this sort of a serious situation is prevailing. I may please be allowed to have my say. The tribal people are in great distress and relief should immediately be provided.....[*Interruptions*]

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI (Deogarh): Sir, I may please be allowed to mention one point.....

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I have called Shri Roshan Lal and he is already on his legs. I will certainly call your names and give you a chance.

[*Translation*]

SHRI ROSHAN LAL (Khurja): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Delhi-Khurja and Ghaziabad shuttle which were running since 1987 as down and up trains Nos. 353 and 354 have been stopped since 30-7-94. Thousands of commuters, who used to come to Ghaziabad and Delhi to earn their livelihood, now do not travel. There is no way upto 5 kilometers and there are no roads even. The only mode of travel for those people were these two train but the Railway Ministry has deprived them of this facility by stopping these trains.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, my submission to the Railway Ministry through

you is that passenger trains No.353 and 354 which were running since 1987 should be stopped at Khanpur and an order should be issued immediately in this regard. There is a lot of tension in this area since these trains do not stop here. Therefore, order may be issued to stop this train at Khanpur without further delay.....[*Interruptions*]

[*English*]

SHRI A. CHARLES: Sir, the hon. Minister for External Affairs, Shri Bhatia is now present in the House. You may kindly ask him to make a statement on the issue raised by me, with particular reference to Yemen.....[*Interruptions*]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Mr. Roshan Lal is already on his legs. Please don't interrupt him. I may also suggest that the hon. Members should also have a look at the clock. I request them to be brief.

KUMARI SHSHILA TIRIYA: Sir, thank you very much for giving me this opportunity.

I associate myself with the issue raised by Dr.Kartikeswar Patra. While we are going into the 21st century, the matter of starvation deaths in our State of Orissa is shameful. The State Government have completely failed to save the people from starvation. In their tenure there were instances of death in Kalahandi and there were starvation deaths even in my district of Mayurbhanj. There is no law and order, and the Government have failed to save the people from starvation deaths. So, I would appeal to the Central Government, through you, Sir, to dismiss the State Government so that the entire hilly area and the tribal people in the State, at least live peacefully and they get their minimum basic needs and are able to earn their livelihood.

[Translation]

KUMARI FRIDATOPNO (Sundargarh): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I agree with the views of Shri Kartikeshwar Patra, Shri Anadi Charan Das and Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar. Sundargarh, which is my constituency, is a scheduled district. Further, Mayurbhanj and Koraput are also scheduled districts. These districts are inhabited by the people belonging to scheduled castes and scheduled tribes. The people of Western Orissa, including Sambalpur also belong to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. These people do not get food and instead depend on fruits and roots. As a result thereof, the people die of starvation. These people suffer from cholera and other various diseases. Late Indiraji and Rajivji had a great concern for them. Today, Shri Narasimha Rao is worried for them. He has sanctioned enough money in the form of assistance but the State Government has not utilized the money properly. That is why Adivasis and Harijans are suffering today. The Central Government should make arrangement for proper utilization of this money.

SHRI MOHAN S. DELKAR (Dadra and Nagar Haveli): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Government of India has issued stay order in regard to Dadra and Nagar Haveli Sugar Project because its investigation is going on. The Government has also issued guidelines that until N.C.D.C. gives clearance, the order for no machinery can be given and further, no action can be taken. But, the Administration of Dadra and Nagar Haveli, in connivance with some people of sugar mill, has floated a tender for purchasing machineries worth Rs.25 crore. Today, they are holding a meeting in Delhi in which they would be fixing its responsibility to an agency. On the one hand, stay order has been issued and the inquiry is going on but on the other hand, the officers and some

people of the mill are trying to commit a scandal of Rs.25 crore. Dadra and Nagar Haveli is an adivasi area. A message has gone to the people there that the funds are being misappropriated. As a result thereof, there is resentment among the people. I would like to bring it to the notice of the Government and request that such wrong-doings should be stopped immediately. It should also be investigated as to who is behind these wrong-doings

[Interruptions]

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mr. Ahmed, it depends upon your cooperation. If everybody speaks for one minute or one and half minute then everyone will have a turn.

SHRI MRUTYUNJAYA NAYAK (Phulbani): Sir, a couple of days ago we were discussing about the flood situation in the country in general, and in our State of Orissa, in particular. We had been mounting pressure on the Centre for more grants for relief operations and for other benefits. But the question is that in spite of the inflow of money from the Centre to the State, there has been pilferage and sabotage. The State Government is guided by political considerations and there have been discriminations. So, Sir, the relief operations are not being properly carried out and relief is not reaching the proper place and people. This is my first submission. Secondly,[Interruptions]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Mrutyunjaya Nayak, already one minute is over and should you not allow your other friends also to participate in the debate?

SHRI MRUTYUNJAYA NAYAK: It is not even one minute Sir.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: It is over. One part is sufficient. Let the Government decide on that.

SHRI MRUTYUNJAYA NAYAK: I would just like to submit that a Central team should visit different parts of the State to make an 'on the spot' assessment of the situation.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Your demand is very much appreciated by Mr.Chacko.

SHRI SUBASH CHANDRA NAYAK (Kalahandi): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Kalahandi is the most backward area. Please allow me to speak for at least three minutes as I will not be able to complete what I want to say in just one minute.

[*Translation*]

I can not conclude in one minute. I need three minutes more.

In Kalahandi, it has been raining day and night for the last two months. About 10,000 houses belonging to poor people and the roads leading towards the villages have been damaged. The paddy seeds sowed by 85 farmers have been washed away. Now this land has absorbed excess sunlight and uptill now these farmers could not start cultivation of paddy. I fear that this year will be the worst drought hit year since 1947 because till date our farmers have not been able to sow paddy seeds. Therefore, I would request the Union Government that if Kalahandi is not extended necessary assistance immediately, the Government would find it difficult to control the situation....

[*Interruptions*]

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Your

cooperation is absolutely essential. We were to dispose of this item by 1230 hours.

[*Translation*]

SHRI SUBHASH CHANDRA NAYAK: Therefore, I submit that unless Kalahandi is brought in the mainstream, India will not move forward. Every day, people die in Kalahandi and we all cry Kalahandi-Kalahandi here. No work is done there. Through you, I would request the Union Government to extend every help to the people of Kalahandi.

[*English*]

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI (Deogarh): As you know, Sir, the Members from Orissa have raised many a time issues like poverty, starvation death and death due to diseases like gastroenteritis. After the floods this disease has now taken a serious turn. In the backward flood affected areas of Orissa due to various diseases including gastroenteritis hundreds of people have lost their lives. This information was given on the floor of the Orissa State Assembly. So, the veracity of what we are saying can be proved from this. However, the Government of Orissa has failed to appreciate the seriousness of the situation and it has failed to meet the situation. We are raising it on the floor of the House not just for the sake of making a point. We earnestly appeal the Government of India to immediately send an expert team consisting of doctors and other officials of Ministries to go to Orissa and assess the situation so that necessary arrangements for relief work can be made. I am in agreement with the suggestion given by Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar that continuation of ADEPT Programme with some modification according to the demand of the situation should be enforced in all the flood affected areas.

SHRI E. AHAMED: Sir, I want to bring to the notice of the House the most pathetic situation which is prevailing in the Relief Camps set up in Barpeta district of Assam. There are about 10 Relief Camps wherein 50,000 people are staying. Today morning itself I received information from my party circles in Assam that there is no food, cloth or medicine, virtually there is nothing in these camps. The District Administration has ceased to exist. There were 90,000 people who fled in the wake of Bodo violence.

Out of that only 16,000 people could return home and another 25,000 people are still living there with their relatives. The 50,000 people who are living in ten camps have not been taken care of.

Recently, cholera and other infectious diseases have spread in these camps. It is very dangerous and serious thing. Up till now, the state Government have not taken care of all these things. If there is a pressure from the Government of India, then only they will take steps. On the instructions from the Government of India only, the Chief Minister had agreed to pay Rs.1 lakh as compensation to the next of kin of those who died.

So, it is a very serious and important situation. It is also a humanitarian one. I plead with the Government of India, through you, Sir, to take immediate and urgent measures in this regard.

[Translation]

SHRI SURYA NARAYAN YADAV (Saharasa): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw your attention to Kosi river of Bihar. There, Beerpur barrage was constructed during the Prime Ministership of Pt. Jawahar Lal Nehru. The technical experts had declared its life period for 25

years. Today, 35-36 years have elapsed and it may breach any time. Sir, through you, I have time and again requested the Government that either technical experts should be sent there or a committee should go and study the latest position. The Government should go for construction of a dam on Kosi river. If the barrage breaches and the dam is not constructed, then crores of people will lose their life. I request the Union Government that keeping in view the seriousness of the problem necessary steps should be taken at the earliest. The Government of Bihar is not in a position to protect this barrage. The employees are not getting their salaries in Bihar. The Union Government had contributed in the construction of this barrage. Therefore, it should make arrangements for construction of a dam on Kosi river.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L.BHATIA): Hon. Members, Shri Charles and Shri Chacko, had raised a point with regard to evacuees from Yemen. The Government is seized of the fact and we are dealing with this matter. If they want to raise any specific point, let them raise it, I will deal with that. Shri Oscar Fernandes had also raised this point about two days back and the same was settled by that evening. If the hon. Members bring to my notice any other point, I shall look into it.

12. 42 hrs

[English]

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

Corrigendum to the Annual Report and Audited Accounts of Bombay Dock Labour Board for 1992-93

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V.RANGAYYA NAIDU): On behalf of Shri Jagdish Tytler I beg to lay on the Table—
(1) A copy of the Corrigendum* (Hindi and English versions) to the Annual Report and Audited Accounts of the Bombay Dock Labour Board for the year 1992-93.

[Placed in Library. See No.LT-6221/94]

Radio, Television and Video Cassette Recorder sets (Exemption from Licensing Requirements) Amendment Rules, 1994

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Radio, Television and Video Cassette Recorder Sets (Exemption from licensing Requirements) Amendment Rules, 1994 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 188 in Gazette of India dated the 16th April, 1994 under sub-section (5) of section 7 of the Indian Telegraph Act, 1885.

[Placed in Library. See No.LT-6222/94]

**Memorandum of Understanding
between Metal Scrap trade Corp. Ltd.
and Ministry of Steel for 1994-95, etc.**

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions):-

(1) Memorandum of Understanding between the Metal Scrap Trade Corporation Limited and the Ministry of Steel for the year 1994-95.

[Placed in Library. See No.LT- 6223/94]

(2) Memorandum of Understanding between the Kudremukh Iron Ore Company

Limited and the Ministry of Steel for the year 1994-95.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-6224/94]

(3) Memorandum of Understanding between the Ferro Scrap Nigam Limited and the Ministry of Steel for the year 1994-95.

[Placed in Library. See No.LT-6225/94]

(4) Memorandum of Understanding between the Sponge Iron India Limited and the Ministry of Steel for the year 1994-95.

[Placed in Library. See No.LT-6226/94]

**Memorandum of Understanding
between Rural Electrification
Corporation Ltd and Ministry of Power
for 1994-95.**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V.RANGAYYA NAIDU): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Memorandum of Understanding (Hindi and English versions) between the Rural Electrification Corporation Limited and the Ministry of Power for the year 1994-95.

[Placed in Library. See.No.LT-6227/94]

12. 43 1/2 hrs

[English]

MESSAGE FROM RAJYA SABHA

SECRETARY- GENERAL: Sir, I have to report the following message received from the Secretary-General of Rajya Sabha:-

"In accordance with the provisions of Rule 127 of the Rules of Procedure and

Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha, at its sitting held on the 4th August, 1994, agreed without any amendment to the Pre-Natal Diagnostic Techniques (Regulation and Prevention of Misuse) Bill, 1994 which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 26th July, 1994."

12. 44 hrs

STANDING COMMITTEE ON
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

Third Report and Minutes

[English]

SHRI INDER JIT (Darjeeling): I beg to present the Third Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on External Affairs on Passport Facilities and Minutes of the sittings of the Committee relating thereto.

12. 45 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE-377

- (i) **Need to provide STD facilities at Tehsil headquarters of Sarguja District in Madhya Pradesh.**

[Translation]

SHRI KHELSAI SINGH (Sarguja): Sir, Sarguja is the second adivasi dominated district of Madhya Pradesh. There are 11 Tehsil headquarters in this district. According to Ministry of Communications, all tehsil headquarters were to be linked with STD facility in 1992-93, but no STD facility has been extended to any of the headquarters so far. The entire telephone system of

Sarguja is decrepit. As a result, there is great resentment among the people of this area.

Therefore, I would request the hon. Minister of Communication that S.T.D. facility may be provided in all tehsil headquarters of this district at the earliest.

- (ii) **Need to Expedite Setting up of a High Power T.V. Transmitter at Chandrapur and Installation of Low Power TV Transmitter in the Tribal District of Maharashtra**

[English]

SHRI SHANTARAM POTDUKHE (Chandrapur): Chandrapur in Maharashtra is a district headquarters with a population of over five lakhs. It is industrially developed area having giant industrial establishments like Asia's biggest Super Thermal Power Station, cement industries like L&T Cement, Manikgarh Cement, A.C.C. Cement, Paper Mills, Steel Plant and over 150 coal mines near about Chandrapur. The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting had approved a High Power TV Transmitter (HPT) at Chandrapur under the Doordarshan Annual Plan of 1993-94 in September, 1993 and issued instructions to start work without loss of time. But even after lapse of nearly a year, upgradation work on this TV centre has not yet been started.

People of the tribal backward Gadchiroli District of Maharashtra which consists of mostly tribals have been demanding a Lower Power TV Transmitter or a very Low Power TV Transmitter at Aheri/ Allapalli in Gadchiroli District since the last five years. This Lower Power TV Transmitter will cater to the developmental and entertainment needs of the tribal population of this tribal, backward, naxalite infested southern part of Gadchiroli District of Maharashtra.

I urge upon the Government to expedite setting up of a High Power TV Transmitter at Chandrapur and installation of a Lower Power TV Transmitter in the tribal district of Gadchiroli in Maharashtra.

(iii) **Need to compensate farmers whose land has come under the scheme of Barbed wire fencing on the Border areas of Ganganagar District of Rajasthan**

[Translation]

SHRI BIRBAL (Ganganagar): Barbed wire fencing along the Pakistan Border have been raised on agricultural land of farmers in tehsils Shri Ganganagar, Karanpur, Rai Singh and Anupgarh in Ganganagar district of Rajasthan. This agricultural land is at a distance of 500 feet from the line of control.

The farmers have to cover a very long distance to reach their lands. They cannot carry on agricultural work on the lands behind the barbed wire fencing.

In such an event the farmers should have been adequately compensated. But the Government did not pay any attention to this.

I, therefore, request the Central Government to speedily pay compensation to those thousands of farmers who have to part with and who have contributed their valuable lands for the defence purposes of the country.

iv) **Need to Hand Over New Building Complex at Howrah Railway Station to South Eastern Railways on Permanent Basis.**

[English]

DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA

(Balasore): Howrah is one of the biggest railway stations in the country. But so far in comparison to other railway stations, it could not be developed so much. The South-Eastern Railways are functioning here in the new complex building which is under the possession of the Eastern Railways. There is dual administration for which both employees and passengers are facing a lot of trouble. The employees have to take water for drinking purposes from latrines. In booking counters, they have to sit without ceiling fans. Though they are handling cash worth Rs.25 lakhs to Rs.30 lakhs daily, there is no security arrangement. When power cut is there, no generator is provided. All this is because of dual administration of the Eastern Railways and the South-Eastern Railways.

I, therefore, urge upon the Government to hand over the new building complex at Howrah Railway Station to the South-Eastern Railways on a permanent basis.

12. 50 hrs.

COMPTROLLER AND AUDITOR-
GENERAL'S
(DUTIES, POWERS AND CONDITIONS
OF SERVICE) AMENDMENT BILL

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI
M.V.CHANDRASHEKHARAMURTHY): Sir,
I beg to move:

"That the Bill further to amend the Comptroller and Auditor-General's (Duties, Powers and Conditions of Service) Act, 1971, be taken into consideration."

Sir, the last amendment to the Act in 1987 raised the pension of the C&AG to the level of the pension of a Judge of the Supreme Court. This benefit is, however, not admissible to two ex-C&AGs who retired before the amendment came into effect in December, 1987. In the case of Judges of the Supreme Court/High Court, the same pension is admissible regardless of the date of retirement. On that analogy, it is proposed to amend the C&AG's Act to allow this benefit to two former C&AGs.

Under Section 3 of the Comptroller and Auditor General's (Duties, Powers and Conditions of Services) Act, 1971, the C&AG's pay and salary is equal to the Judge of the Supreme Court. However, if a person who immediately before assuming office as the C&AG was in receipt of a pension (other than disability or wound pension) in respect of any previous service under the Government, an amount of pension equivalent to gratuity would be reduced from his salary. It is proposed to amend the C&AG's (Duties, Powers and Conditions of Service) Act, 1971 so that the element of pension equivalent to gratuity is not required to be deducted from the salary of the C&AG on or after 27th March, 1990. This would be in conformity with the orders on the subject which are applicable to other reemployed pensioners including the Chief Election Commissioner.

Considering the constitutional importance of the office of the C&AG and the need to maintain its dignity, I am sure that the provisions of the Bill will receive support from all sections of the House.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That the Bill further to amend the Comptroller and Auditor-General's

(Duties, Powers and Conditions of Service) Act, 1971, be taken into consideration.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI (Daggarh): Sir, I rise to support the Comptroller and Auditor-General's (Duties, Powers and Conditions of Service) Amendment Bill, 1994.

It is a Bill further to amend the Comptroller and Auditor-General's (Duties, Powers and Conditions of Service) Act 1971. The background in which this amendment is brought forward here has been explained by the hon. Minister. There can be no controversy about the purpose and the objective of this Bill because C&AG is an important constitutional functionary. It is an important organ of our democracy. This Office is equivalent to that of the Office of the Supreme Court Judge. When certain benefits are enjoyed by the Supreme Court Judges, however, by some omission or commission they do not flow to the C&AG, then corrective steps will have to be taken to bring them at par. This is an attempt in that direction.

In respect of certain incumbents, who occupy dignified offices after retirement, my view is that there should be a limit on the total salary, emolument, that they get. I do not know the position. But there has to be a parity and there should be a parity. Even in high offices, as you are aware, Sir, we should not just go by making comparisons and keep benefits to this class of people or that class of people and say that since some has got that, others also should get that. Before doing that, there should be a consideration from all angles. Sir, as you know, ours is a poor country and about forty per cent of our population is living below the poverty line. We should also keep that in mind while going on increasing and

[Sh. Sriballav Panigrahi]

equating all these pecuniary benefits, etc. There should be a ceiling on the amount, which should not be exceeded by any office, however dignified that office may be. One should get nothing beyond that. Some gratuity, etc. has to be adjusted because it is the question of extension or like that. This is one of the aspects which has to be taken into consideration.

At the same time, about the C&AG, his role, his duties, functions, etc. have been clearly enumerated in the Act of 1971. Beyond the provisions of that Act also, there are certain conventions in so far as the C&AG's association with Legislature is concerned. He is not directly a Member but he is associated with Parliamentary Committees. And particularly in Public Accounts Committee, he has a great role in ensuring accountability of the Executive to Legislature. The C&AG and his senior officers do render assistance very effectively, in a meaningful manner, to the Public Accounts Committee and even to the Committee on Public Undertaking to some extent.

Sir, as you know, democracy cannot successfully function without an increasing element of honesty, integrity in different offices. It is disturbing to know that allegations of corruption against people occupying high offices are multiplying. For that purpose also, there is a demand for setting up institutions like Lok Pal, Lok Ayukta to deal with these allegations. If the monster of corruption goes on expanding its activities, its ugly head, and we do not take action to arrest, to check the growth of corruption, then that will ultimately sound a beginning of disaster and will also be detrimental to the functioning of our

democracy, of which we are proud. As you know, Sir, we are the largest democracy in the world. All efforts have to be made to make our largest democracy the best democracy.

We cannot call our democracy the best democracy, the way we are having elections, corrupt practices, muscle power and all those things.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Sriballav Panigrahi, you can continue your speech after lunch.

13. 00 hrs

The Lok Sabha then adjourned for lunch till Fourteen of the Clock.

ANNOUNCEMENT RE: ADJOURNMENT OF THE HOUSE TILL 14.30 HOURS FOR WANT OF QUORUM.

At 1400 hours quorum bell was rung. No quorum was made. At 1403 hours quorum bell was rung again and no quorum was made. At 1406 hours once again quorum bell was rung and no quorum was made. Thereafter, the Secretary-General made the following announcement.

[English]

SECRETARY-GENERAL: There is no quorum. The House cannot meet. We cannot start the House till there is a quorum. The Deputy-Speaker has directed that the House will meet at 2.30 p.m.

14. 35 hrs

The Lok Sabha re-assembled at thirty-five minutes past Fourteen of the Clock

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER *In the Chair*]

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Sriballav Panigrahi, you can continue after the Minister of State for Home Affairs makes a statement.

SHRI P.M.SAYEED.

14. 35 1/2 hrs.

[English]

STATEMENT BY MINISTER KIDNAPPING OF CHILDREN IN DELHI

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P.M.SAYEED): I share the deep concern of the House regarding kidnapping of children in Delhi. According to the information available with the Government, 22 cases of kidnapping /abduction for ransom have been reported in the capital during the current year upto 31.7.1994 as compared to 20 cases of the corresponding period of previous period. Out of these 5 cases were cancelled. Out of 17 true cases of 1994, 14 cases have already been worked out. All the cases in which notorious criminals were involved have been worked out. Out of 3 not worked out cases, in one case of PS Vinay Nagar the victim has returned back and his disappearance is suspected to be linked with some business rivalry. It would thus be seen that actually only two cases - one relating to the kidnapping of boy named Vaibhav Jain from the area of P.S. Saraswati Vihar and other relating to the kidnapping of a girl Rashi from the area of PS Punjabi Bagh have not been worked out so far. In the case of PS Punjabi Bagh, the dead body of the girl has been recovered and the motive appears to be murder. Efforts are afoot to work out both these cases.

941 cases were reported under the head kidnapping and abduction in 1992 and 808 cases were reported in 1993. During the first six months of 1994, there were 516 cases as against 421 cases of the corresponding period of 1993.

Normally all the cases where even a vague letter or call for ransom is received are categorised as kidnapping for ransom. Out of the total cases of kidnapping/ abduction only about 3% cases relate to kidnappings for ransom. A number of cases of this category are actually not cases of kidnapping for ransom. Every year nearly 40% - 45% cases originally reported as kidnapping or abduction get cancelled as cases of runaway children or girls above the age of 18 eloping with some one with their consent. Thirty two cases each in 1992 and 1993 were categorised as kidnappings for ransom in Delhi.

Delhi Police took the lead to set up a Special Cell to investigate the cases of kidnapping for ransom realising the importance and sensitivity of these cases. A Special Cell had initially been opened in the Crime Branch to deal with such cases. Recently a group of specially selected investigating officers has been identified and trained in each district to handle this category of cases. Due to intense training, methodical working and proper motivation these teams have been able to successfully work out most of the cases of kidnapping for ransom.

The Crime Branch has compiled information in respect of criminals indulging in kidnapping for ransom. The information so compiled has been passed on to all the Police Stations of Delhi and also to neighbouring districts of U.P. and Haryana for keeping surveillance on these criminals.

[Sh. P.M. Syeed]

The Special Branch has compiled information in respect of gangs of terrorists who have the history of indulging in kidnapping for ransom. Effective surveillance by the field officers on the basis of this information is going a long way in controlling this crime.

The Principals and teachers of the schools have been requested to take precautions for safety of the children particularly relating to escorting and busing of children to and from designated pickup points. Principals have also been requested to ensure that teachers supervise the return of children to the custody of their guardians or authorized escorts at the end of the school hours. Safety tips for school going children have been prepared, widely published in the newspapers and circulated to all the schools. The parents have also been requested to take certain safety measures in respect of school going children.

I have reviewed the position with Lieutenant Governor, Delhi. Strict instructions have been given to Police Personnel in all Police Stations of Delhi, to maintain maximum vigil and to respond to any reports of kidnapping and abduction with alacrity and to work out cases once reported with maximum diligence and despatch. Special Cells have been established in all 9 districts to assign dedicated teams of ace investigators to each case of kidnapping or abduction with ransom. The Indian Penal Code was amended by the Parliament only last year to include a provision under Section 364 A which has made kidnapping for ransom punishable with death or imprisonment for

life. The Government will have no hesitation in bringing further changes in the relevant laws wherever necessary to ensure that those engaged in such dastardly acts do not escape just and deterrent punishment.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Sastry, whenever the hon. Minister makes a statement, no one is allowed to seek a clarification.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI (Saidpur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the issue of abduction is very serious and the Delhi Government has been a complete failure in this regard. People are scared about this trend of kidnappings not only in Delhi but the adjoining areas also. People are very worried. I, therefore, would like that the Delhi Government be dissolved. The hon. Minister is defending the Delhi Government. I would like to know as to what action has been taken by the Central Government as well as by the Delhi Government? There should be a clarification thereon. I would like to know the number of people who have been punished under Article 364 (a) and the action being taken by the Government in this regard.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shastriji, please listen to me.

[English]

Whenever the hon. Minister makes a statement, clarifications cannot be asked for. This is the exact precedent and custom that is prevailing in this House. This is the procedure. You and I have to honour it now

May I now request Shri Panigrahi to start the debate please.

14. 44 hrs

COMPTROLLER AND AUDITOR-
GENERAL'S (DUTIES, POWERS AND
CONDITIONS OF SERVICE)
AMENDMENT BILL— CONTD

[English]

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI (Deogarh): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, in the pre-lunch Session, I was speaking about the importance and the utility of the institution, that is, the Comptroller and Auditor-General in our system, in our country and in a democracy. It is a very important organ of our democracy. Government accounts and the expenditure drawn on the Consolidated Fund of India are audited by the Comptroller and Auditor-General.

Sir, the Bill appears to be quite innocuous and it intends to remove certain disparities and bring in the provisions for giving certain benefits enjoyed by some other high dignitaries. It intends to bring on par the emoluments and other benefits given to the Comptroller and Auditor-General with that of a retired Supreme Court Judge or something like that, who hold certain offices after their retirement; some assignments are given to them. It appears quite innocuous and as such there should be parity. We do not object to it. But in principle, Sir, I have got certain reservations. What was the harm in continuing with the previous provisions? In the case of certain retired personnel, they are getting reemployed or being given some assignments. In that case, they are receiving salary and gratuity and they were receiving it because of their previous services. Some adjustments were being made here and there. There is some confusion. What I mean is that, in toto, even

after retirement when they take up an assignment, whatever salary or whatever benefits that they get should at no time exceed what they were getting while in service.

After service, if they are given certain assignment, well, it should be sanctioned or merit. But they should also be grateful to the Government of India that even after retirement, they are given this assignment. That way, I am of the firm view that no such incumbent should get anything higher than what he was getting at the time of retirement. Supreme Court judges, CAG and IAS Officers, are getting much more.

I was saying earlier about the peculiar situation of our vast majority of people with 40 per cent rotting below the poverty line. And if some Officers, some dignitaries, some incumbents and high Officers vie with each other comparing their emoluments and benefits and if they want to influence the Government to get much more in the name of parity, this should be properly scrutinised. I do not think this was referred to Standing Committee. It would have been had it been referred for detailed examination and scrutiny.

Anyway, I support this parity between two sections of incumbents, high dignified officers who should think above themselves because they are above all these things to be debated on the floor of the House. This is also not very dignified thing. But there is a mad rush for getting benefits. But ultimately how far our economy can bear the burden of this?

While I give my support to this Bill, my request to the Government is that in the days to come, there should be some consideration from this point of principle also.

[Sh. Sriballav Panigrahi]

As regards the role, functions and service conditions, we have our Act about it enacted long before in 1971. Certain things are very clearly provided but certain things also have developed by way of convention about the close association of CAG and his senior officers with the parliamentary committees and that way, the role that they are playing in ensuring executive accountability to legislature is also a welcome feature.

After the securities scam broke out, there are a lot of suggestions being given by knowledgeable people, by experts, by Members of Parliament and even by some Committees about extending or expanding the role of the institution of the Comptroller and Auditor-General. There is a definite suggestion that the audit of the accounts of the Banks, Financial Institutions, should be brought within the purview of the audit of the Comptroller and Auditor-General. Wherever there is any doubt about the audit, any accounts, any herapher that come to light, then a very reasonable demand is made in different quarters that the accounts of these institutions should be audited by the Comptroller and Auditor-General. Of course, the role and functions of the Comptroller and Auditor-General are manifold. They perform the work of audit of different Government Department's accounts. They submit roughly about 20 Reports to Parliament every year and around 80 Reports to different State Legislatures obviously through the President of India and the Governors of the States concerned respectively. The point is that Parliament can not go in for detailed scrutiny of the Audit Report. Therefore, Committees like the Public Accounts Committee are there. The Comptroller and Auditor-General assists the Committee in the selection of

subjects, in the preparation of background papers, information, memorandum etc., briefing the Members and also helping them in the examination of the witnesses and all those things.

Sir, you know that we have inherited our system from the British System. There, the Comptroller and Auditor-General is a part of the Parliament. He is an Officer of Parliament. In America, the C&AG is responsible to the Congress. But here we have a different system. the C&AG is associated with the Committees. In Parliament what we find is that almost all the recommendations of the Public Accounts Comw whether the Government have held any negotiations. We would like to know what is the result of it. It cannot be delayed like that. The role of the opposition is very important in a parliamentary democracy. This Parliament cannot continue like that. We must know what exactly is the problem. With the majority you have, Government think that it can very well trample everything. It is not correct. But we would like to know about it. This is a very important matter. Already the hon. Speaker has been making himittee etc. are accepted. Of course, there are a few exceptions. We cannot also force the Government to accept everything in its entirety. Whenever they differ, they have to come before the House giving an explanation about how they are not in a position to accept the recommendations. But, by and large, the recommendations should be accepted. They are being accepted. But there is a different story about the States. About the States, sometimes there is inordinate delay in the matter of audit being completed and preparation of Audit Reports, what to speak of submission or presentation before the Assemblies through the Governors. There have been cases of delays in preparation and

presentation of State Audit Reports for various reasons. There has also been inadequacy of time on the part of the Committees at the State level owing to which the Reports could not be taken up for examination. Consequently, many serious financial irregularities remain unattended.

This situation needs to be improved. It is also equally important that the executive should not wait for the recommendations of the committee when they know- because they also appear before the committee- where the shoe pinches and where the loopholes are. So, without wasting time and waiting for the report to come out, they should take action to plug the loophole.

Although the purpose of this Bill is very limited, yet it provides an opportunity for a discussion on this very important institution, that is, CAG.

I conclude with one suggestion that the institution of CAG needs to be further strengthened and to some extent, streamlined. Certain areas can be brought under the jurisdiction of the CAG. Of course, there is a provision of going outside the purview also. When there is a reference made to CAG by the hon. President, hon. Governor or even by Parliament, they perform their job. In respect of public finance, a tragedy over-took us in the name of world's largest scandals, that is, bank securities scam. Therefore, I would even suggest that Government should carefully and seriously give its consideration whether the banks should be subject to the audit by the CAG.

With these few words, I thank you for having given me time to participate in this discussion on this Bill. While lending my support to this Bill, I once, again, place my

viewpoint before the Government about the desirability of enhancing and extending the kind of facilities for this type of institution or dignatories.

SHRI P.G. NARAYANAN (Gobichettipalayam): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the Comptroller and Auditor General of India is an important constitutional functionary. Although CAG of India is a very important organ of democracy, his position differs significantly from the CAG of UK and the Controller General of the USA. The role and relationship of the CAG of India vis-a-vis the legislatures is different from the Auditors-General of other democratic countries.

CAG has been regarded by the Indian Constitution as a vital link in the process of establishing public accountability. CAG discharges his responsibility through audit report presented to Parliament which are subsequently examined by the Public Accounts Committee. The duties and powers of CAG are laid down under the Act of 1971. Now a Bill further to amend the Duties, Powers and Conditions of Service is before this august body to give enhanced pensionary benefits to the persons retired as CAG of India before 16th December, 1987. Earlier the Act was amended in 1987 so as to provide that the persons retiring as Comptroller and Auditor General of India on or after 16th December, 1987 will get the enhanced pensionary benefit.

15.00 hrs

Now, while fully agreeing to this proposal, I would like to say a few words about the involvement of CAG.

Sir, a major step towards effective Parliamentary control of Government has been the formation of a number of Standing

[Sh. P.G Narayanan]

Committees. Now-a-days very frequently matters of political importance take up so much of Parliament's working hours and at the same time surveillance of Government's functioning gets only limited attention.

The formation of several Standing Committees should help Parliamentary working more business-like with the Committees looking closely into the wisdom of Government's expenditure and asking questions that Parliament in its normal course of business is unable to do. But, it must be recognised that even the Committees may not be able to address themselves to the needs of monitoring in view of their tight schedule. It is in this context that the involvement of CAG should be seriously considered, in the preparation of performance reports and analysis. The Committee would be better able to perform their work with the CAG assuming this very essential responsibility.

15. 02 hrs

[SHRI TARA SINGH *in the Chair*]

Sir, while this would, obviously, demand a change in orientation on the part of the CAG's office, the more important thing is for the Government to accept an enlargement of the duties of this institution within the existing Constitutional provisions. But, at the same time the various Ministries and the Legislature should accept the CAG's assessment of Government policies and should not proceed on the basis that his Constitutional responsibilities are getting over-stretched in the process. When the CAG begins to submit performance reports, the Government machinery and the Legislature must view as a perfectly

legitimate extension of the duties of the CAG under the Constitution.

First and foremost, the Union Budget must be taken up for close examination and generally the working of fiscal policy by CAG. He should also call for weekly report from Reserve Bank of India about the growth in its net credit to the Centre and from the different Central Ministries, the revenue collection and disbursements under different heads on a monthly basis.

Finally, I would like to say a few words about the accountability of financial institutions and the role of the CAG. When the securities scam broke out, fresh demands for audit of banks and other financial institutions by the CAG were made, but the stand of the Government remained unaltered. When the JPC was constituted, many people expected association of CAG with the intricate inquiry. Secondly, since the Government has not thought it fit to enlarge the scope of CAG's audit with regard to Financial Institutions, majority of the financial institutions are out of his audit purview. With these serious limitations, it has become impossible for the CAG to contribute much in this area. The Government and the JPC could have made amends for whatever happened in the past if only the expertise of senior officials of this institution had been utilised to get to the root of the scam. This opportunity has been missed. The active association of CAG would have ensured a more business-like probe. It was not at all fair on the part of the Government to have kept the CAG entirely out of this exercise. In retrospect, I must say that perhaps if the CAG had been empowered, through appropriate legislation, to examine the accounts of public sector banks and other public financial institutions, the security scandal might have been nipped in the bud.

With these words I support the Bill.

SHRI SHARAD DIGHE (Bombay North Central): Mr. Ghairman, Sir, I rise to support the Comptroller and Auditor-General's (Duties, Powers and Conditions of Service) Amendment Bill 1994 moved by the Minister of State in the Ministry of Finance. The Bill is very short and simple and has a very limited object and also small financial implication. The Bill is merely amending two clauses. In fact it is deleting clause (c) of section 3 of the Comptroller and Auditor-General's (Duties, Powers and Conditions of Service) Act, 1971 and adds clause (d) to section 6 of that principal Act.

The effect of deleting clause (c) is merely to put the service conditions of the Comptroller and Auditor-General at par with that of re-employed Central Government pensioners in so far as deduction equivalent of gratuity from his salary is concerned. So, by deleting clause (c) the retirement gratuity which was being deducted from his salary will be stopped and he will get the benefit of that bigger amount. From the Financial Memorandum it appears that for the present incumbent Rs.797 per month will be the addition on this account. Of course, we are giving this effect from 27.3.1990. So nearly Rs.38,000 to Rs.40,000 will have to be paid to the present incumbent as far as arrears on this account is concerned.

The addition of clause 6 (d) to section 6 of the principal Act has a very limited effect. It will give benefit to only two persons or their heirs as stated in the Financial Memorandum:

"This is estimated to involve a onetime payment of Rs.15,257 as arrears of pensionary benefits to one deceased Comptroller and Auditor-General and additional payment to another retired

Comptroller and Auditor-General of India which works out to Rs.32,468 up to 31.3.1994 and Rs.317 per month as Dearness Relief thereafter."

So, in fact it affects according to me the present incumbent and two past incumbents. In all, three people are affected by this Bill. I wonder why the Government has taken so prompt steps for the benefit of these three persons. There are several Government employees and several anomalies in their service conditions, salaries of several categories of Government employees. Instead of directing our attention to the small people, we have taken pains to bring a legislation for the correction of anomalies with respect to these three persons in the whole of India.

I only hope that the Government will show the same enthusiasm and attention as far the anomalies in the case of other Government servants of lower categories and several Government servants, who are spread throughout the country because many times the experience is that several such anomalies are there and Government has no time to look into them and these anomalies remain as they are for a number of years. So, I take this opportunity of urging the Government to look into all these anomalies which may be lying with, perhaps, the Ministry of Personnel and then take similar prompt and urgent steps as are necessary.

Now, two hon. Members, who have spoken earlier have referred to incidentally, the scope and duties of the Comptroller and Auditor General. I would share the views of Shri Narayanan, who just now spoke regarding the scope and duties of the Comptroller and Auditor General that many of these financial institutions which do not come under the purview of this Comptroller

[Sh. Tara Singh]

and Auditor General may be brought in by making suitable rules. As I find from the Constitution, this Office is a Constitutional authority created under Article 148 of the Constitution and Clause 5 of that Article states that subject to the provisions of this Constitution and of any law made by Parliament, the conditions of service of persons serving in the Indian Audit and Accounts Department and administrative powers of the Comptroller and Auditor General shall be such as described by the rules made by the President after consultation with the Comptroller and Auditor General. So, even the administrative powers, etc., are to be made by the rules. I do not know whether the scope of the duties of the Comptroller and Auditor General can be covered by these rules. The Government may examine them if any Constitutional Amendment is necessary. That may be done and this good institution may be utilised fully. As far as our financial institutions and other departments are concerned, our experience has been that the Comptroller and Auditor General's Reports are very valuable. Many times they point out several deficiencies in the different departments of the Government and sometimes we are also surprised in the Public Accounts Committee when such deficiencies are brought to the notice of the Committee and subsequently, to the notice of the Parliament. Therefore, serious review may be taken as far as the scope and powers of Comptroller and Auditor General and if this institution can be further utilised to increase the accountability of the executive to the Parliament. That may also be thought over as early as possible. With these words, I support this Bill as brought before this House.

SHRI LAKSHMAN SINGH (Rajgarh):

Sir, I support this Comptroller and Auditor General (Duties, Powers and Conditions of Service) Amendment, Bill, 1994.

In our Constitution, it is clearly mentioned in Chapter 5, Article 148 (1) that the President of India has this office under him and the Comptroller and Auditor General of India can be removed from his office in the like manner and on the like grounds of a judge of the Supreme Court. Sir, when he can be removed in the like manner of the Supreme Court judge, I am sure he is entitled for similar emoluments and salary as of a judge of the Supreme Court, which is mentioned in this Bill.

Sir, it is very necessary to strengthen the CAG, because the CAG is doing dual functions. He is doing the function of a judge as also the function of a policeman by going into the detailed accounts and finding out irregularities in Government accounts. A number of scandals have come out in the past due to CAG's findings. Recently, the accounts of the Sports Authority of India were audited and it was found that a number of investments, which were made, were of no avail and the equipment that was bought for the sportsmen was still lying unused.

In Madhya Pradesh, the State where I come from, when my friends in the Opposition were running the Government, there was a very big scandal of purchase of X-Ray machines. Crores of rupees were spent in purchasing X-Ray machines by the Health Department. Only five per cent machines were installed and the remaining ninety five per cent of the X-Rays machines were lying unused and were in a terrible state. That is why, I again stress on strengthening the office of the CAG.

Shri Somayya, the former CAG had recommended that the nationalised banks

should be brought under the purview of the CAG. I do not understand why till now we have not done that. I fully support Shri Somayya's view and I strongly feel that all nationalised banks must be brought immediately under the purview of the CAG, so that in future we will have no banks scam.

The investment in share capital of 294 public sector undertakings in 1992 was staggering, Rs.45,000 crore and the dividend paid was only Rs.733 crore. It is a return of even less than two per cent. This is the condition of our public sector undertakings. The Audit Report of 1992-93 says that 26 public sector undertakings invested Rs.9,432 crore with banks. The surplus funds were invested in foreign banks and other mutual funds. BHEL invested not the surplus funds but the money which they had drawn from the credit facilities. These things are unpardonable in a democratic country like India and I feel that the CAG must be further strengthened.

Sir, recently, we have come across the Security Scam of Rs.6,000 crore; even the amount is not yet known. At one stage we are allowing such serious bunglings with Government funds and on the other hand, we are having the hunger deaths in Orissa. Now, those hungry people are watching everything. They are watching us, they are watching the people sitting in the Government. If these things are not checked, if these bunglings are not checked, we are on the threshold of a revolution.

So, it is all the more necessary to prevent any kind of scam in future.

I agree with my friend who recommended that C & AG should be involved in the Standing Committees of Parliament. Since all our friends in the Opposition have resigned from the Standing Committees of Parliament, I think this is the best time to include the C&AG in all the Parliamentary Standing Committees. Sir, I thank you for allowing me this time and, once again, I stress that C & AG must be strengthened and should be given more powers.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V.CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): Mr. Chairman, I am thankful to those Members who have participated in this discussion and I wish to inform the House, through you, Mr. Chairman, that we have come before this House through this Bill only for a specific purpose.

Firstly, the Bill provides for amendment to the Comptroller and Auditor-General's (Duties, Powers and Conditions of Service) Act, 1971 and the Act was further amended in 1987, which raised the pension of C&AG to the level of the judges of the Supreme Court. However, this benefit was not admissible to former C&AGs who had retired before the amendment came into effect in 1987. That is why, by this amendment, it is proposed to allow the benefit to the former C & AGs also. This has to be done because wherever there are amendments to the pensions of the Supreme Court judges, it is applicable to them irrespective of their date of retirement. Hence, we have come with this proposal before this House.

Secondly, the proposal deals with the

[Sh. M.V. Chandrashekhara Murthy]

was raised by the hon. Member, Shri Panigrahi. This provision of not deducting the pension equivalent to gratuity is to bring the C&AG at par with the Central Government employees, for whom the provision is made since 1986. Shri Panigrahi also mentioned about re-employed persons. Even in that case, the amount of pension which is to be commuted, will still be deducted from the salary.

Further according to the Office Memo issued by the Department of Personnel and Training and Department of Expenditure, the pension equivalent to gratuity is not deducted in the case of re-employed pensioners and retired judges. The same is now being made applicable to C&AG also.

Therefore, we have come before this House with the proposal to amend the Comptroller and Auditor-General's (Duties, Powers and Conditions of Service) Act, 1971 so that the pension equivalent to gratuity is not required to be deducted from the salary of C&AG on or after 27th March, 1990.

Hon. Member, Shri Dighe has expressed serious concern about the lower level Government employees. I also share the concern of the hon. Member. The government has already constituted the Fifth Pay Commission which will look into the pay and allowances and pay structure of the lower level Government servants.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, through you, I appeal to the entire House to pass this Bill unanimously.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That the Bill further to amend the

Comptroller and Auditor-General's (Duties, Powers and Conditions of Service) Act, 1971, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

MR. CHAIRMAN : We shall now take up Clause by Clause consideration of the Bill.

The question is:

"That Clause 2 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 2 was added to the Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That Clause 3 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 3 was added to the Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That Clause 1, Enacting Formula and the Long Title stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 1, Enacting Formula and the Long Title were added to the Bill.

SHRI M.V.CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY: Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill be passed."

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That the Bill be passed."

The motion was adopted.

15. 28 hrs

Demand Nos. 1, 4, 10, 11, 45, 47, 74, 79, 80, 83, 84, 87."

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMANDS FOR GRANTS (GENERAL), 1994-95;

DEMANDS FOR EXCESS GRANTS (GENERAL). 1990-91;

AND

DEMANDS FOR EXCESS GRANTS (GENERAL), 1991-92

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House will now take up item Numbers 10 to 12 together.

Motions moved:

(ii) "That the respective excess sums not exceeding the amounts shown in the third column of the Order Paper be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of India to make good the excess on the respective grants during the year ended 31st day of March, 1991 in respect of the following demands entered in the second column thereof:-

Demand Nos. 7, 11, 13, 16, 22, 93 and 94."

(i) "That the respective supplementary sums not exceeding the amounts on Revenue Account and Capital Account shown in the third column of the Order Paper be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of India to defray the charges that will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st day of March, 1995 in respect of the following demands entered in the second column thereof:-

(iii) "That the respective excess sums not exceeding the amounts shown in the third column of the Order Paper be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of India to make good the excess on the respective grants during the year ended 31st day of March, 1992 in respect of the following demands entered in the second column thereof:

Demand Nos. 15, 17, 28, 84,97."

(i) Supplementary Demands for Grants (General) 1994-95 submitted to the vote of Lok Sabha

No. of Demand	Name of Demand	Amount of Demand for Grant submitted to the vote of the House	
		Revenue (Rs.)	Capital (Rs.)
1	Agriculture	250,00,00,000	.....
4	Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying	39,00,00,000	.....

No. of Demand	Name of Demand	Amount of Demand for Grant submitted to the vote of the House *	
		Revenue (Rs.)	Capital (Rs. b.)
10.	Ministry of Coal		1,00,000
11.	Department of Commerce	1,00,000	.. ....
45.	Other Expenditure of Ministry of Home Affairs	2,00,000	.....
47.	Department of Education	2,00,000	.....
74.	Ministry of Steel	10,00,00,000	.....
79.	Urban Development and Housing	.....	2,00,000
80.	Public Works	.....	1,00,000
83.	Ministry of Welfare	.....	22,00,00,000
84.	Atomic Energy	.....	1,00,000
87.	Department of Ocean Development	5,40,00,000	.....
TOTAL		304,44,00,000	22,05,00,000

ii) Demands for Excess Grants (General), 1990-91 submitted to the Vote of Lok Sabha.

No. of Demand	Name of Demand	Amount of Demand submitted to the vote of the House
1	2	3
		Rs.
	EXPENDITURE MET FROM REVENUE	
	13. Defence Pensions	11,51,872
	16. Defence Services - Air Force	1,44,05,86

661 *Supp. Demands for* SRAVANA 17, 1916 (SAKA) *Demands for Excess* 662
Grant (General), 1994-95 and *Grants (General), 1990-91, 1991-92*

No. of *Name of Demand* *Amount of Demand submitted*
Demand *to the vote of the House*

1	2	3
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93. Lakshadweep	3,55,524
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94. Chandigarh	1,16,10,312
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EXPENDITURE MET FROM CAPITAL

7. Department of Commerce	521,08,80,697
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11. Telecommunication Services	103,17,60,756
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22. Ministry of Environment & Forests	68,488
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93. Lakshadweep	1,25,597
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(iii) Demands for Excess Grants (General), 1991-92 submitted to the Vote of Lok Sabha.

<i>No. of Demand</i>	<i>Name of Demand</i>	<i>Amount of Demand submitted to the Vote of the House</i>
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1	2	3
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Rs.

I. EXPENDITURE MET FROM REVENUE

17. Defence Pensions	29,29,916
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28. Pensions	32,50,53,771
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97. Chandigarh	5,01,43,133
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II EXPENDITURE MET FROM CAPITAL

15. Telecommunication Services	65,03,82,479
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84. Nuclear Power Schemes	1,03,71,330
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MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Anadi Charan Das to please initiate the Debate.

[Translation]

SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS (Jajpur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, while supporting the Supplementary Demands for Grants for the year 1994-95. I would like to raise some points in this House.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have been noticing for several years that a new item is included every year in the General Budget. An M.P. who comes from a rural constituency knows that the allocation increases every year but the expenses are also increasing. More people are being employed every year. Several factories have opened in the country and as a result thereof we are manufacturing things which were otherwise not manufactured in our country. You are aware that the number of poor people in the country is increasing and the poor are becoming poorer. Many departments are there in our demands in which Ministry of Welfare and Ministry of Rural Development are also included.

The demands put forward by you include some capital expenditure along with revenue expenditure. The capital expenditure does not benefit the poor in any way. The provision made for rural godown is not attended to by anyone, though it is Government's property. The number of rural godowns in India is 4835 and the maximum number is in Gujarat. Next comes Maharashtra in the list and in Orissa there are only 137. The Government construct these godowns but people take away the tin-sheets of the roof and bricks of those godowns. Therefore, these are of not much use to people. That is why it is my suggestion is that people should be asked to construct godowns and those shall be

hired by the Government as in the case of Banks. If at least it is suggested by the Agriculture Ministry about the godowns to be constructed in Tribal areas that the Ministry should construct the godowns in their names and we would hire them, this way they would be properly looked after. We see that in tribal areas all such godowns constructed are dismantled and the material stolen by the people in the absence of non-utilization of funds by the Government. Who will benefit from this? It benefits the non-tribals. Today, I would ask all the Members of Parliament that they should go to their blocks and ask that

[English]

anybody who is below the poverty line should cross the poverty-line.

[Translation]

Has the Government fixed a cut-limit for this? You have to assist where there is a cut-off line. You have earmarked 1 percent subsidy for marginal and small farmers, and landless labourers. Earlier gradation was too small. But if it does not yield any good result, something new should be done in this regard, because the Government has introduced new economy in the country. At the time of Shrimati Indira Gandhi there was a slogan that we were following the path of socialism. But we are now tilting more to privatisation. But the rural folk does not get its benefit. It is often seen that if a loan is sanctioned to landless labourer or an adivasi Harijan or any woman or any handicapped person to the tune of Rs.10 thousand and 50 per cent subsidy is fixed on it an amount of about three thousand to Rs.four thousand is taken by middle men. The Government has just stated that it can provide loan to the tune of Rs.12 thousand. But it must be noted if

its first beneficiaries are the Sarpanchs and their Secretaries. The other beneficiaries are Gram Sewaks, the BDOs and others. Then comes the turn of Bank employees. I know that the Bank officials abuse Adivasis and Harijans. They use to say that it is not the money of their father and unless they pay certain amount of money, they would not get loan. I mean to say that every official involved in the process between the submission of application to the sanction of loan has a fixed share of the loan as commission. And thus, the applicant has to bear a loss of about Rs.4000.

I would like to make a suggestion here. When we had launched the I.R.D.P. Programme. At first we used to provide Rs.3,000 to every block. Thereafter we started assisting them with the financial and of Rs.600/- per year. As it has become the practice now that they were given second dose or if a new family comes into the way to be helped it should be given the help. The Government may do similar arrangements. If it has to give assistance upto the amount of Rs.four thousand or Rs.three thousand five hundred, it can issue bonds worth of this amount so that it may increase upto Rs.one lakh after 15 years. There should be a provision that the amount be doubled after every three years. Thus within 15 years this amount would become Rs.1 lakh. The Government will have to invest this amount because if the Government will give assistance through other persons, the middlemen will certainly take their commissions. For example, the Government has its financial institutions like the Unit Trust of India and other seven or eight financial institutions where this money can be deposited. For example, the Government had planned to help the tribal Harijans through the Indira Vikas Yojna and Kisan Vikas Patra. Similar bonds can be issued accordingly. Such bonds worth

Rs.three thousand five hundred each may be issued to the needy persons and the amount may be deposited in any financial institution, so that it can increase into a handsome amount by increasing every year. It would create confidence among them because normally they have to cross the poverty line.

So far as manipulation is concerned, if anyone has no land, he approaches the Tehsildar for the allotment of land. The Tehsildar sends his application to his subordinate official the Revenue Inspector for inquiry and asks him to submit his report. After conducting the enquiry he reports that the person concerned has no land in concerned village. I mean to say that through manipulation anyone can be declared landless and can get land. If he has some other business and thus he gets Rs.5 thousand to Rs.10 thousand his money continues to multiply. I do not talk about manipulation here, but it is a reality. I hail from a small village of 50 families. I use to study the surroundings of village and it is convenient for me. I am aware about their difficulties and other problems and that is why I get elected after every five year. If I do not do so, I can never win the election because there are many beneficiaries in the present system. A new concept should be and opted in place of it. Shrimati Indira Gandhiji tried to change the concept and had been successful to some extent. You may say that who are we to break present system. But the question before us is as to how we should benefit the poor. Therefore, we must adopt a new concept.

You may see the tribal sub-plan. There are so many facilities provided for the tribals in it, yet no tribal has progressed so far. I asked all of my friends from this side whether there is any contractor among the tribals. Someone replied in the negative.

Someone else said that there is a contractor of the 'B' or 'C' category. I further asked whether any tribal have a bus, truck or a cinema hall. But no body has. Unless they come into the mainstream how can they progress?

Whereas the question of building construction is concerned, construction works are going on there but the money remains there after circulation whereas the position is quite different in my area. I know it that 70 per cent funds spent on construction work flow out of Orissa and only 30 per cent money remains there. Thus there is outflow of funds from Orissa and the funds provided for the State is not being circulated there itself.

It is the plight of tribal area and every village there that no money is circulated there. While a person was returning from market I asked him what was the position. He replied that money was cheaper there and goods was costly as he had taken plenty of goods in his basket to sell it at market whereas he could fetch very little goods in his gamcha. Thus the poor also understand everything. How long can we mislead the poor?

Mr. Chairman, Sir, why everybody prefers service today? The only reason behind it is that the standard of living of a person, who is in service, rises. Even if one may be a peon but his future generation will cross the poverty line.

Sir, we do hold discussion here on almost every issue, but we never discuss the poor. I have asked several times that discussion should be held under Rule 193 for those people who come under I.R.D., but every time it is side lined by merely

saying that this issue has been discussed through question or any other way. Those issues which are related with political gain, are raised here every time. For example the sugar issue is going on here. Every time attempts are being made to raise this issue, but the issues related to the cause of the poor are not raised here at all.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to submit here that these serving educated persons do not cast their votes in your favour. Only the poor cast their votes for you. They alone are your vote bank, but the Government do not take care of them at all. The Members of Parliament are elected by their precious votes but they forget them soon after joining Parliament. They do not do my work for them. It hurts me too much.

Sir I have the information about the whole country. But I would like to confine my speech to my constituency only. There are 70 schools and colleges and there is hardly any area which does not have people who got education above matriculation. There is a large number of graduates and post graduates in many parts of my constituency. But they are unemployed. The landless people are also graduates and jobless. How would the Government meet this critical situation? The distribution of wealth is also not proper. Had there been proper distribution of wealth the present crisis might not have cropped up.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, once I had calculated that the Government employees had 38 written advantage and 47 unwritten advantages. All these advantages are being provided to the employees and nothing is done for other poor people of the country. Therefore, all prefer white collar jobs. Even after a long period after the Independence this is the condition of the country. You speak for giving facilities to all but all the facilities

are being provided to employees. The people working in the fields also who are the sons of the soil do not get any facilities today at all.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to submit that a person sitting in his office and holding a pen in his hand for the whole day does not produce anything. Farmers alone produce foodgrains in fields. His plough yields foodgrains but the pen of a Government employee does not. A Government employee will be awarded pension after his retirement but the farmers do not get anything at all. I, therefore, submit that the farmers also should be provided pension. Various kinds of pension are being awarded to the people of this country but the farmers have not been given any kind of pension so far. Our younger brethren are farmers, but the elder brethren do not think anything about the younger brethren. The elder brethren are least concerned with the younger brethren. But today the children of the younger brethren have grown up. It is an irony that the selected few enjoy all the facilities but others do not. How can it be tolerated? Some citizens of my area asked me to do something in this regard. I had suggested in this august House to make provision of their jobs in all departments barring that of Science and Technology and provide pension to those who complete their service of 25 years.

[English]

Kindly give jobs to their children also. Besides that, I suggest that 'one family one job' principle should be followed. The persons below the poverty line in this country should get this benefit. Already there is a list giving the number of such people in each and every block. And even code number has also been given to those individuals, who are below the poverty line,

by the Government. There are five or six lakhs of people. At present the Government has decided to give assistance up to the second slab, that is, up to Rs.8,500. Kindly give benefit first to the children of landless labourers, small and

[Translation]

Give it to their children in advance. The dispute regarding SC/ST will gradually fade away. At least now these people are ready. I do not want that any family which keeps domestic animals like cows, goats etc and set up poultry farm should not face any problem. They have small tracts of land, thus, they have to work according to that.

The poor people should also get benefits from the capital expenditure like construction of a building etc. If we do not determine it they will not get its benefits. When the Demands for grants are presented to the House, they will get passed, we do not oppose it but we should consider its concept for the future. The system prevalent in the tribal areas should also be changed. If the supposed beneficiaries of this do not get the benefit, the people would not be able to progress in life. Their land is taken by other people e.g. the people of Kerala come to Orissa and take possession of thousands of acres of land belonging to poor people and use it for cultivation of cashewnuts. The Government is also assisting them in this. The Government should see to it that the people whose land has been acquired by the Government should get a compensation because they have only land in their possession for their livelihood. Why do you allow people to go and buy land in other places? It is correct that under the constitution any citizen can live anywhere but if somebody comes and takes land belonging to poor people then they would

be in great inconvenienced.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, you should visit the tribal areas and see the conditions prevailing there. If a railway line is to be constructed there the land of these people is acquired. How will they earn their livelihood? Has the Government ever thought about their rehabilitation? The condition of poor people is deplorable. If they are working in a Private company, they get fired from their services as per the whims and fancies of the company authorities. The private sector companies do not fear anybody. We take pride in claiming that we are Indians and what we possess does not exist anywhere in the world but we are not concerned about our own people.

Regarding excess demands I would like to say that there is no scope for any excess expenditure in the absence of a budget. Once the budget is already passed by the Government then what is the basis for excess grant? Why we cannot evolve some other system for that? We present excess grants time and again before the House but we do not have details about that. The availability of details may tend to rule out according approval to certain useless items. This process needs to be streamlined. You should compare the difference between private accounts and Government accounts. There should be uniformity in the provision of funds. The funds should be such which could be easily spent. The expenditure incurred is usually more than the funds approved. In the event of excess expenditure, the need arises to get excess grant approved from the House. Much time is consumed in the process. If I go into the details of the entire system it will take a lot of time. You bring about several reforms. Why do you not present any reforms in this

regard? You should make a system which would avoid the presentation of excess grants. There should be special system for this.

With these words I support it. I thank you for allowing me to speak.

[English]

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI (Deogarh): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have the pleasure to support the Supplementary Demands for Grants (General) 1994-95 and also Demands for Excess Grants (General) relating to 1990-91 and 1991-92.

In 1994-95 Supplementary Demands for Grants, there are 15 Demands aggregating Rs.343 crore. Out of these, there could be an adjustment to the tune of Rs.86.94 crore, viz., by way of savings etc. Therefore, the net cash outgo will be of the order of Rs.256.06 crore for the 1994-95 Supplementary Demands for Grants.

The Demands for Excess Grants relate to 1990-91 and 1991-92. 1991 means that that expenditure has been incurred three years before and 1992 means that that expenditure has been incurred two years before. 1990-91 Demands for Excess Grants come to an amount of Rs.627.73 crore. That year also we had Supplementary Demands for Grants. Sometimes, there are First Supplementary Demands, Second Supplementary Demands and over these Demands, there are Demands for Excess Grants. In 1990-91, Demands for Excess Grants come to Rs.627.73 crore. Of course, in the following year, viz. next year, 1991-92, it comes to Rs.104.27 crore.

I agree that India is a very big and vast country which has continental dimensions. That is why, people call it sub-continent and

mini world also.

Naturally there would be certain items of expenditure which cannot be correctly visualised at the time of preparation and presentation of the Annual General Budget, and when certain items of expenditure are not foreseen but they are incurred during the course of the year, provision has got to be made for them in the form of Supplementary Demands. So, the provision of Supplementary Demands will have to remain there. But if closer scrutiny is there, if proper exercise is there, if proper assessment is there, the amount provided in Supplementary Demands and Excess Demands will certainly come down, though it cannot be totally eliminated. There cannot be two opinions about this. As you know, Sir, the present Government, with a Finance Minister like Dr. Manmohan Singh, is bringing about so many reforms in our financial system. But they should also devote some time, they should also go in for detailed scrutiny so that this could be streamlined. The 1991-92 Demands for Excess Grants have been examined by the Public Accounts Committee and the Public Accounts Committee, after examination of the accounts, have not found any objection to this expenditure and have recommended for the regularisation of this expenditure by the Parliament. So, this has got to be regularised.

As regards the Supplementary Demands, what are generally the items of expenditure. One of the items is 'Agriculture' and I find 3-4 very important items of expenditure under the head 'Agriculture'. One is 'financial assistance for revival of two sick cooperative spinning mills at Guntakal and Anantapur in Andhra Pradesh. That is fine, Sir, and we welcome it. Again, under the head 'Fertiliser', there is a provision for giving certain concessions, for paying

certain subsidy for the availability of non-controlled fertilisers, like phosphate. Then, there is a provision for grant of assistance to Rajiv Gandhi Foundation Trust for project to rehabilitate and assist child victims of terrorism. So, there are certain very good provisions. The objectives being laudable, we should not have any objection to giving our approval to these items of expenditure.

Strictly speaking, the debate on Supplementary Demands has got to be limited to these items of expenditure which are proposed here. I am constrained to make this observation that we are still pursuing an ad hoc policy in the matter of fertiliser. In the speech delivered by His Excellency, the President of India, to the Joint Session of Parliament, he- which means the Government itself- had expressed serious concern about the imbalanced use of fertilisers. After three to four decades of consistent efforts some sort of a balance of fertiliser was here in our country in the ration of 4:2:1 of nitrogen, phosphate and potash. Now it is 15:2:1 because we gave some concessions to nitrogen and as a result of that, it became cheaper comparatively and the prices of potash and phosphate pushed up higher. So, the farmers went in for cheaper fertiliser ignoring the other two, although there was a great need of balance of fertilisers in the field. This aspect also has been highlighted by the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Petroleum and Chemicals. About the concessions, subsidy etc., that Committee came out with its recommendations that the Government should take a decision about them well in time before the starting of the agricultural season.

Sir, I was trying to find out the reason for giving subsidy. Earlier, it was not there. But later on, the Government decided to extend the policy of subsidy and now they

[Sh. Sriballav Panigrahi]

are comign before the House for its approval. This is not something unforeseen. Why are we not having a very systematic approach and long range view about agriculture which we can ill afford to ignore? In Indian economy particularly, the Budget is a gamble of the monsoon. During the British days it was so. Now, after 46 years of independence we have one-third of our agricultural land under irrigation, which is 33 per cent. This figure is also disputed.

Sir, you are aware as to how erratic the behaviour of the monsoon has been this year. There has been plenty of rains in some parts of the country causing floods and also bringing-in misery to the people and some other areas of our country go dry in the absence of adequate rains. On the other side, we have the danger of population explosion which is going up every day. We have to coordinate the population growth with the demands of foodgrains. Thus, we have to see that the productivity goes up because the agricultural land remains the same and it cannot be expanded. We can go in for modernisation of our cultivation which also means use of higher doses of fertiliser.

16. 08 hrs.

[SHRI P.C.CHACKO - *in the Chair*]

Sir, we cannot indefinitely depend on import of fertilisers in a large scale. We have to be ingeniously self - reliant and we have to work in that direction. But, again I am sorry to say that a half of our fertiliser plants in the public sector are sick today and they are pending before the BIFR. I am particularly happy that funds have been provided in the Supplementary Demands for the revival of two sick units in the public

sector. Similarly, wherever there are chances of survival, let us not make delay particularly with regard to fertiliser plants which are pending before BIFR since long.

The Government, labour and the agency operating, agencies appointed by the Government can sit together and can very well formulate a strategy. The sick plants before the BIFR are like patients in a very serious condition in a hospital. How long can we maintain them? Those who are before BIFR have the commitment, moral commitment to provide funds to those units so that they do not stop functioning during the pendency before BIFR. When the patient is under oxygen, he is not yet dead, can you declare him dead and deny him medicine, food etc. in the hospital? What is happening today in Talchar Fertilizer Plant, what is happening in Ramagundam Fertilizer Plant, what is happening in Gorakhpur Fertilizer Plant in Uttar Pradesh? So, when we are examining the feasibility of revival of this plant, naturally till its finalisation before the BIFR, we have to provide them funds so that they run, particularly when we need the fertilizer. There is a greater demand of fertilizer. So, there is an argument that we have to allow foreign fertilizer. America is dumping fertilizers in India but again we have to have a very cautious approach in that. Looking at the situation that they are having surplus, but when we do not have our own fertilizer plants and we completely and entirely depend on foreign fertilizers, what will happen? They may dictate terms to us. Then our life will be miserable. We have to see that our public sector units survive in our country, I do not mean thereby that which are already sick, where there is no chance of survival, keep them alive. I do not say that. But there are certain public sectors units which can function well with certain incentives, with some modifications,

with certain reservations, by bringing in a new work culture. A new work culture has to be evolved, particularly in public sector to fit in today's requirements. That is why I would say that in the public sector fertilizer unit has got to be there so that the Government can exercise effective control over the private sector. In the total absence of public sector, it may so happen I am afraid that a time may come when the private sector will simply dictate terms upon the Government. Therefore, my suggestion is that wherever there is any chance of a survival of sick public sector units, we should leave no stone unturned to make them functional. In that way, even last night and this morning I have got an SOS from my area, in Talchar, about the closure of this Talchar Fertilizer Plant. The Orissa State Electricity Board have not agreed to provide power to this unit without insisting on clearance of all the arrear bills. I have personally spoken to the C.M.D of the Mahanadi Coalfield Ltd., to also have some liberal approach in the matter of supply of coal to this fertilizer plant. They insist on total payment or on cash and carry system. According to the cash and carry system, the entire payment is required to be made before lifting coal. They are also giving some concessions.

So, the Government of India in the Fertilizer Ministry should release the working capital. In the general Budget, provisions were there. Now, why are they not releasing working capital so that this plant can run and our requirement of fertilizer also can be met indigenously? This is one request and suggestion.

Regarding voluntary retirement, I think, there is a provision for that. We are discussing about the sickness of the public sector units in our country. There are two reasons attributed to the sickness of the

public sector units. Number one is about the surplus labour. About one-third of the people is found in excess over the staffing pattern. Suppose if it is 100 workers, then 130 workers are there on the roll. Secondly, they have outdated technology. Of course, this reason is not clearly spelt out, that is managerial deficiency. It is also one of the main reasons for failure of the public sector units. The people are in excess over the required staff in the public sector units. We want to get rid of those people. So, we have the exit policy or the golden hand shake scheme. Many people, labour leaders and local MLAs and MPs are explaining to the people the situation and they agree to the provision. Naturally, a provision has to be made for their retirement benefits. Wherever there is a scope, that should be further explored. You should see that excess people are retired as early as possible. There is a saying, "Too many cooks spoil the broth". When there are many people, naturally, there is a controversy and they do not put in even the minimum labour that is required to be put in.

Regarding evolving new work culture, I think, a beginning should be made. INTUC labour organisation, affiliated to the Congress- I is proposing to organise a seminar on the 24th of September which will be attended by public sector managers. It is to impress upon the people, the managers, the trade unionists that how a new work culture is required to be evolved. It has to be evolved with the workers-management participation, with the workers' participation in the management. Today—Sarkar ka maal, dariya mein daal—there is a feeling that in the Government organisation, without work, you can draw your salary. If we are there in the labour movement, it means, without putting in any work, because of the leadership, we should get our salary. This theory no more holds

good. There should be efforts from different quarters towards bringing in new work culture.

About agriculture, I do not know whether the hon. Minister can clarify this point. This year, there is a very very serious situation prevailing in many parts of the country which are leading to the severity of flash floods. Sir, you State is a victim of floods. My State is also a victim. Similarly, Gujarat, parts of Maharashtra and Karnataka are also victims of floods. The Agriculture Ministry is the nodal Ministry for relief operations. Looking at the seriousness of the abnormal situation, besides margin money, they have provided calamity funds. But the principles of providing calamity funds, as laid down by the Eighth Finance Commission are obsolete now. Those principles of the Eighth Finance Commission sanctioning calamity fund and regulating calamity fund, cannot hold water in the present situation. I could not find anything in the papers presented to Lok Sabha about such provisions. I think, the Agriculture Ministry wants money to cope with the situation. They should have done it in the Supplementary Demands for Grants. The other day, we heard the helplessness of the Minister of Agriculture. He was full of emotions but at the same time, saying that why were they blaming him to go with empty hands to different States.

Why should the concerned Minister move with empty hands? Mr. Finance Minister, Sir, let him move with his hands full of what he wants so that people's sufferings can be addressed to properly, people's sufferings can be eradicated.

Sir, in States like Orissa, the average annual rainfall is 150-160 cms. When I had

spoken to the Collector of the district, I had been told that by now there had already been a rainfall of 115-120 cms. All this rainfall had occurred in the very beginning, in the first week of August. We want some more occasional rains in October and even during Deepavali time. We want rain showers around that time so that the paddy and other crops tended at the low lying areas can flower without any problems. But there is a lurking fear every effort. But we have to know from the Government about this. The Government is answerable to the House. It is our right to know about the role of the Government in this fiasco. The role of the opposition cannot be minimised. And whatever stand they have taken, I have my own view. But the Government should tell the House about the role of the Opposition. The Government should come forward with that. How long will you be just keeping mum and only speaking on the television? The Government should speak in the minds of the farming community as to what will happen if the rain-God fails around September. That is why, I sound a note of caution to the Agriculture as well as Finance Ministries to be ready. God forbid, that such a situation does not arise. Even if such a situation arises, you should not be taken by surprise. Already a three-fourth of the average rainfall had occurred in forth five days time. Naturally, if a calamity comes, that should not take the Government by surprise.

Sir, this is only a Supplementary Demand. We have so many good words and praises to shower upon the Finance Minister and particularly on our Prime Minister, Shri Narasimha Rao. You know in what state our economy was in 1990-91, when he took charge of the reins of the administration of our country as the Prime Minister and Shri Manmohan Singh as the Finance Minister. Now the things are looking up and we are

seeing the gains of the previous three Budgets presented consecutively. This was the Fourth Budget that was presented this year. Shri Manmohan Singh had the unique distinction of having presented as Finance Minister four Budgets consecutively, year after year. The gains of the three previous Budgets are now being consolidated. The frightening inflation rate which was 17 per cent was brought down to 7 per cent or something last year. But again, due to several factors like the revision of sugar prices, oil prices and other administered prices there was a little increase in the inflation rate. But today it has again come down to 10.4 per cent. It is required to be further brought down by a strict monitoring on this price front, economic measures and so on. In that direction some efforts are required to be made. I do not like to go to other things like the foreign exchange reserves and those other things. As you know, this is only a Supplementary Demand.

As far as the fertilizers, the farmers and other things are concerned, I would only say that there is a discontentment growing among the farmers. On the question as to whether it is reasonable or not, I do not say it is reasonable at all. It was just a political slogan. They only want to take electoral advantage, they want to brighten their electoral prospects. Janata Dal, at that time, came before the country with their proposal of waiving all sorts of loans upto Rs. 10,000. Sir, you know to what extent they could fulfil that promise. They could not do it. But it has tremendous and adverse ramifications and even today it is being felt. I know personally many cases where people were not defaulters. They went with money to the nearest cooperative society or the bank to make the repayments. They were told by the concerned officers as to why they were in a hurry since the Government had made a declaration exempting or waiving off the

loan amounts upto Rs. 10,000.

They asked them why they were in a hurry to pay the money and, therefore, they did not pay. They were eager to pay but the money was not accepted and they were sent back to their homes. Now, they are charged compound interest. You know in co-operatives, there is compound interest.

I would appeal to the Government to see the reality and to save these people from being harassed for no fault of their own. Today what is required to be done is to exempt them from payment of the interest. I do not say the principal amount should be waived. There should be an arrangement for making repayment of the money in easy instalments of the principal amount. This suggestion should receive sympathetic consideration of the Government.

I would like to support the Supplementary Demands and, at the same time, request the Government to give some serious thought to the observations and suggestions that I have made.

[Translation]

SHRI KRISHAN DUTT SULTANPURI (Shimla): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the Supplementary Demands for Grants. There are 15 demands in it and first Demand is for Agriculture. It generally happens that excess expenditure is incurred. As all of you know, that different parts of the country have experienced heavy floods in which several bridges and fertile land has been washed away. Due to such natural calamities, the Government is not able to foresee the exact amount required for the coming year. The Government comes to the House for approval of the expenditure made in excess of the estimates. Therefore, 15 Demands

presented by the hon. Finance Minister are justified and I support them and request that this amount should be approved to meet the necessary expenditures.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, many things have been said here. Huge losses have been suffered by heavy rains through out the country be it Karnataka, Tamilnadu, Uttar Pradesh or Himachal Pradesh. The farmers who were ready to harvest a bumper crops have suffered heavy losses. I would like to say something about the orchards of Himachal Pradesh where large scale losses have occurred.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, about 70 persons including many tourists have been killed in Himachal Pradesh due to heavy rains and cloud burst. Many vehicles were washed away in the river. Even their dead bodies could not be traced. In this way, they have suffered heavy losses. I am grateful to the hon. Prime Minister for asking the concerned Ministers to assess the damage caused due to floods and has empowered them to provide all help to the affected States. But, I would like to request that immediate relief should be provided on the basis of reports submitted by the district administration of the affected areas. Since we are here to support the Supplementary Demands for Grants, this thing should also be decided in the House itself. In Himachal Pradesh, particularly in Kotgarh, Jubbal, Kulu, Mandi, Kangra etc. apple crop has been damaged and in many tehsils huts of the poor have been washed away in floods. In lower areas, we have plain land but in hill areas we have fields like staircases. They have been washed away in floods. Many sheds meant for milch and other animals and kachcha huts have been washed away by heavy rains. Many water flour mills have also suffered damage due to heavy rains. It has also caused damage to Hydro power

Many hon. friends have said that Finance Commission has curtailed the expenditure of the State after down grading them from first category states. Now this should be improved in the new commission and special category states should be benefited. We make up industrial losses but there are people who do not pay income tax and are in arrears worth crores of rupees. There is large scale corruption from top to bottom as a result of which the poor suffer. Income tax is paid honestly by the Government employees because of their known sources of income. A stern action should be taken against those who are involved in tax evasion. When factories become sick, financial aid is demanded from the Government but when any damage is caused to the crops, nothing is given to the farmers. It was said by the National Front Government that it had waived off the loans of farmers upto Rs. 10,000. But did they really waive off the loans of farmers? The loans of only those persons are waived who have not to pay anything to anyone. The foreign investment which is being invited to our country can benefit us. There are many industries where officials have nothing to do and they merely get salary. We have to look into this aspect and ensure as to how we can save money of our nation.

I do not want to say more as there is not much to say on the subject. These supplementary demands for Grants are justified. Now-a-days people are getting killed due to floods and are suffering huge losses due to heavy rains.

Today our opposition benches are vacant. They too would have liked to say the same thing which I have said. When three boys were killed in a firing in my constituency, I asked Rajivji that I would like to sit on dharna on the Gate of Parliament House. But he told me that I have been sent to the Parliament by the people to sort the

matters by discussions. Why should I then sit outside the House. I should talk to the hon. Speaker. So if our friends in the opposition do not participate in the proceedings of the House and sit on dharna at the Gate, that would not be a good thing. They are always in search of an excuse to defame the Government. They blamed that our Prime Minister has taken Rs. One crore but they could not substantiate their charge. At the time of Shri Rajiv Gandhi, they brought forward the Bofors issue. When the same subsided, they brought another issue. Why are they not discussing things in the House itself? They are boycotting merely to get press coverage.

Atrocities on Harijans are being committed and children are being kidnapped. Why they do not raise such matters in the House? They are representing crores of people and have certain responsibilities. They should participate in the deliberations here on the economic situation prevailing in the country and should see that injustice is not done to the poor and backward people. Whenever any approval has to be taken for the construction of some road or a bridge, it is incorrectly said that the concerned area is fully inhabited by the SCs. The Government should check such things properly.

The hon. Prime Minister has given Rs. One crore to each Member of the Parliament for carrying development works in their constituencies. Now, there is only one and a half year of tenure of this Lok Sabha is left so every Member should concentrate on the development works of their areas. There is no use of staging dharna outside the House. We should welcome the suggestion given by the hon. Prime Minister.

These Supplementary demands have

been brought to meet the excess expenditure and they are justified. The main problem country is facing today is that the people who became homeless should be rehabilitated and for this purpose a time bound programme should be formulated.

The State Governments are not financially sound. If any meeting is organised there, all the ministers, leaders and officers reach there by air. All the officers reach there in Government vehicles. I think, the expenditure so incurred can easily be utilised for helping atleast 200 families. So much fuel is consumed in such flights. The Deputy Commissioner and other official reaches there. No M.P. is consulted for this purpose. There is no use of such expenditure. The hon. Minister who goes on tour should share the responsibility. Whenever he goes on State tour, he should involve not only Deputy Commissioner but also M.P., MLA and Panchayat Pradhans. The State Ministers should be consulted but they do not know anything about such tours. The Central Ministers conduct air survey which is not enough. They cannot assess the factual position with such surveys. Today people are being ruined and the main reason for that is that our schemes are not completed in time.

Our friends from Punjab are sitting here. Punjab is our neighbouring state. A canal has been under construction in Haryana for several years. The Government has invested crores of rupees on it but having no return. Bhakhara and Pong dams were constructed for the development of Punjab and water and electricity are being provided upto Rajasthan but people of Himachal Pradesh were displaced in the construction of these dams. They were rehabilitated in Rajasthan but they were forced to leave Rajasthan and go back to Himachal Pradesh. Many such people went

[Sh. Krishan Dutt Sultanpuri]

back to Himachal Pradesh but there also there was no one to look after them.

Similarly SCs, STs, backward classes and the poor are harassed. All the persons, whether rich or poor, have one vote only. Earlier, there used to be large scale rigging in the elections but now proper arrangement is being made for which the Government deserve congratulations. In the recent Assembly elections in Himachal, which we fought under the leadership of Shri P.V.Narasimha rao and Shri Vir Bhadra Singh, our party won 53 seats. I also congratulate the people of Madhya Pradesh where our party won Panchayati raj elections in 43 districts out of 45 districts. At present, floods and heavy rains have caused havoc in Madhya Pradesh.

Therefore, I request that this matter should not be limited only to making speeches in the House but some practical work should be done for them.

You will take a practical action and will arrest the guilty, tax-evaders. You will arrest them and give details as to how many people were challaned this year and how much money was collected from them. If we just go on harping on that this happened and this was done then nothing concrete would take place. Everybody would have to take the responsibility whether he is a Member of Parliament or a Minister.

We are happy to note that Murthyji is a very nice and intelligent person and has been made a Minister. He is managing finance well and he performs his duties well. Sardar Manmohan Singhji has done wonders. He even apologises to the opposition if it is needed. He says if a mistake has been committed they can come

here for a discussion and point it out to us. But this is not their platform to hold a discussion, their platform is outside. I do not understand that those big leaders who make tall claims of working towards making India forge ahead, are not willing to come here for discussion and try to defame our leader. I strongly support it and say that such people should introspect and compare themselves with those they are criticising.

I feel that these demands are justified. I strongly support them.

SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI (Saidpur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am grateful to you for allowing me to speak on supplementary demands. Today the details of Supplementary Demands for the years 1990-91, 1991-92 and 1994-95 have been presented before the House for its approval. Sir, first of all I support these Supplementary Demands and at the same time I would like to know from the hon. Minister that every year the Demands are approved by the Lok Sabha, Rajya Sabha and the President, and the budget is prepared painstakingly 4 months in advance. This budget is prepared by our learned Ministers and officers, then, how is it that even after such preparations the funds provided fall short. O.K., even if the shortage crops up then why the Supplementary Demands are not made and got approved within 2-4 months? It beats us as to why the approval is sought on 2-3 years old demands, for years 1990-91, 1991-92 etc.? Sir, our budget process seems to be faulty. Because we are aware that inflation increases and prices of various items fluctuate and these things are kept in view while making arrangements. But we are distressed to say that something is wrong somewhere and it needs to be rectified. And it can not be proved wrong. The Demands would eventually get approved but I would like to know from the

hon. Minister whether it does not cast aspersions on the dignity of Lok Sabha or Rajya Sabha when the budget provisions are designed by the officers to fluctuate this way. Sir, these Demands have to be approved to run the country so Lok Sabha is bound to approve them but such things need to be deeply studied. When we were in the opposition last year we had raised this point at that time also and the hon. Minister had given it a serious thought and had given an assurance also but nothing has been done. Today we are in the ruling party and raise the same point again and submit that it should be mentioned in the reply.

Sir, we have Demands for Grants before us for the year 1990-91 and 1991-92 and an extra amount of Rs.627.73 crores has been spent under 7 Grants -in -aid of 7 Appropriation Demands. Similarly, an amount to the tune of Rs. 103.18 crore has been spent on tele-communications. It is a good thing and undoubtedly our country has progressed a lot during the last 2-3 years especially in the field of tele-communications. Several modern techniques have been developed and some revolutionary works have been done. But the place where revolutionary works have taken place but the tele-communications system has deteriorated. I am citing an example, wherever you go, you will see that 10 percent telephones would be malfunctioning. These telephones have only become show-pieces and repeated complaints fall on deaf ears and phones remain dead for 1-2 monts. The issue of over-billing has also been discussed several times in this House. I myself had a bill of Rs.1,10,000 and I was told that extra calls had been made. On asking for details I came to know that at least 20 STD were made to an astrologer and the bill ran in scores of thousands of rupees. My family,

no doubt, belongs to Kashi and has been brought up in brahmin culture but I do not believe in astrology and is not very keen on prayers etc. and my telephone has a locking system also. How come that our bill included calls to an astrologer? They said that they would look into it. Two years have elapsed but nothing has been translated into reality. It was heard that a technique has been developed. It was said that people should form a code and since it would be known only to the telephone-consumers themselves, no other person would be able to intrude upon it. We formed our code but even then we are suffering from over-billing. The hon. Minister of Communications is not present here. I want to ask him as to what is the need to write? We repeatedly request that it should be looked into but the problem of over-billing continues through the next month also and no investigation takes place. You may go on spending whatever you intend to but this cheating should be checked. There are Ganshbad, Shalpur-Keshkat-Dullahpur and Jakhnia districts in our area. The hon. Minister of Railways had visited that area two years ago. He saw a station there. People requested him for arranging a halt at that station. He understood their difficulties and immediately provided it. The villages and townships there should have telephone facilities. The hon. Minister gives a reply here that the telephones are being set up there. You undertook developmental work in the country during the last three years but the regions in villages were not developed and mere assurances were given. Ways should be considered to put a check on bureaucracy. The villages have M.R. telephones, though I am not fully informed about it. You should investigate about it after installing M.R. telephones. 302 murder cases have been filed in the villages of Eastern Uttar Pradesh. Each village has 2-3 M.R. telephones installed. One Board

wanted it installed with it while the other also insisted on it. If the official was a Harijan, or belonged to a backward class or was Muslim then stray cases of lathicharge or firing would also take place. If a backward class family had a telephone installed, the upper class clamoured it to be removed and it was removed. We would have to look into it. The Ministry should pay attention to all these points. It was said about environment related demands for 1990-91 that an amount to the tune of Rs. three crore, eight lakh, six thousand, seven hundred six rupees would be spent as additional expenditure. Our Minister of Environment and Forests is a completely dedicated person, he is young and exuberant and doing good work. I will mention a result. The Ganga Action Plan is underway in Varanasi. Rajivji had launched it after visiting it. He had envisaged clean and hygienic rivers for India. Kashi is such a place where the people of the country and the world come to have a holy bath that is why, the water of Ganga should be clean. Plans were chalked out involving millions of rupees. The hon. Minister gave a statement 2-3 days back that we have achieved complete success in checking pollution under Ganga Action Plan. Yesterday, I was standing on the shores of the Ganges. I saw that 3-4 dead bodies were flowing in water and the dogs were pouncing on them and there is health hazard and complete chaos at Harishchandra Ghat. Similarly Meetha karnika ghat also bears a mute testimony to chaos there. Where is Ganga Action Plan being undertaken? You maintain that it is being undertaken. A discussion on pollution had taken place in this House and we had raised a question that we were facing a problem of Neelgaon in our villages. The hon. Minister had maintained that it was a personal matter. Till it is called a cow it will

be linked with religion. People call it 'garhroj' in place of 'Neelgai' and you maintain that a check is being made. But I would like to tell you that thousands of acres of land is being damaged by 'Neelgai'. Crops worth crores of rupees is being destroyed and the farmer is on the verge of destruction. Your Ministry has earmarked one crore rupees in the supplementary Demands for grants. The Government claims that they have made arrangements for catching 'Neelgai' but there is not a single village left in Uttar Pradesh whose at least 25-50 acres of land has not been damaged by the 'Neelgai'. Therefore, a mere provision of funds in the supplementary Demands for grants is not enough, it should be monitored also.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Government to Demand No-13, the Ministry of Defence. An expenditure of Rs. 16,669 crore, 78 lakh, 51 thousand and 872 has been shown in it. Though, it has been increased but I would like to know from the hon. Minister of Defence that why there the land belonging to Ministry of Defence in Varanasi which is worth several hundred crores of rupees has been allowed to be grabbed and why this could not be prevented? It was stated that the land has been given on lease for 99 years but the capitalists are still occupying that land. The small workers and craftsmen who had been working there are being removed. There is a sadar market where 3 or 4 Muslims and Harijans were running their shops and were involved in motor repair works. Now they are being removed from there and construction work of a hotel has been started there. When the actual position in this regard was enquired upon it has come out that this land was given on 99 years lease and the lease has expired four years back. Therefore, I have to say that this matter may be looked into as the people working there are very poor people.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, there is a very important road in the military area at Varanasi. Earlier there was a divider on the road but now it has been removed and road has been converted into a one way traffic. It has been mentioned in the Mahabharata that Lord Krishna and Draupadi had used this road during their 'Panchkoshi Yatra'. But it is known to the Government alone why this road has been closed abruptly. Even during the first and the second world wars also the Britishers did not close this road. But today the Government officials tell that it was creating troubles for the transportation of military equipments and hence it has been closed down. Now 20 lakh persons of Varanasi are condemning the Congress and they ask why the Government is closing this road which is of historical importance. This defames our Government. This also must be taken into consideration.

In the grants for 1991-92, an additional expenditure of Rs. 104 crore and 27 lakh has been shown under the Grant 93 and Grant 7 of appropriation 4. Under this decrease in all expenditure of more than rupees one crore on the roads has been shown.

17. 00 hrs.

Sir, I would like to submit that the Government is taking keen interest in the developmental works as has been mentioned by the hon. Members who spoke prior to me. Our Ministry of Rural Development is working in this direction very efficiently. Hundreds of crores of rupees are being released for Jawahar Rojgar Yojna and these are being released through the State Governments. Today, the position in those States is far from satisfactory. It has deteriorated to the maximum extent. It has gone to the worst position in Uttar Pradesh. The hon. Minister of State in the Ministry of Rural Development Shri Uttam bhai

Haribhai Patel is sitting here. He had gone to Varanasi in connection with an issue of a drain there. There he called a meeting of the officials there and asked about the issue. He ordered them to construct the drain immediately. But the drain has not been constructed yet and the position is same as it was earlier. Rs. 27 lakh has been spent on that drain, yet it has not been completed. After constructing some part of this drain a two or three kilometre stretch of this drains has not been constructed because alongwith that stretch the area is inhabited by the people belonging to Scheduled Castes minority community and backward castes. Today the people there have to put handkerchief on their nose while moving in that area. If work is done so carelessly, how can we expect of good performance? The Government will have to look into this matter. The State Government is responsible for it.

The Centre will have to make special laws for them and enquire from them under certain special provisions. Otherwise, the Centre goes on providing Grants and hundreds of crores of rupees of the country will go waste and the Centre will be sanctioning the funds here.

Sir, through you I would like to submit to the hon. Minister that flood is occurring in many parts of the country. Even those rivers in which there had never been any flood are flooded for the last three or four days. The water level of the Ganga river has started rising in Varanasi, Gazipur and Balia. Water has risen in the Ganga at Patna also. I would like to draw the attention of the Government and this august House to the fact that flood occurs every year. We were talking on floods here. 44 or 45 years have passed since the Independence and flood situation has become a regular feature. We had chalked out the first

planning Flood Control Plan in independent India. Under this plan we had made elaborate arrangements to control flood. Hundreds of crores of rupees are spent on it but to no avail. I am telling you it here and after 8 days it will appear in newspapers that nearly dozens of rivers like Gomati, Nad, Ganga, Sai, Maghai, Besu etc. are in the grip of flood, marooning at least 200 villages. There is no space where men and women can go to ease themselves. No pasture land is left for cattle. As it usually happens, information will be given that thousands of match boxes and certain litres of kerosene oil was made available but severe bungling was made and the articles were not distributed properly. It is well known that flood occurs there every year at certain specific places and specific articles are distributed on such occasions. Army is often called there to combat the flood situation and check posts are set up there. Why all these arrangements are not made permanently in the event of such incidents? We should make provision of lump sum amount of Rs.10 or 5 crore at a time and provide permanent solution. It should be solved finally at one time so that flood does not occur next year. As I have been stating here time and again that the flood is likely to occur within 15 days there and we will speak here that our Saidpur constituency is inundating. Since we complain of the same trouble every year, the Government should evolve permanent solution to this malady. It must be given due attention.

In this context, I would like to state that too much has been said on fertilizers. The Ministry of Agriculture has sought some additional funds for fertilizers in these demands. Our hon. colleagues have very nicely discussed on fertilizers here. I do not

want to go deep into it but through you I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister of Agriculture that the system of distribution of fertilizers in Uttar Pradesh is very

17. 05 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

defective. We know that earlier there was one agency each of Gazipur, Jaunpur, Varanasi and Balia. But it is not known where all those agencies have vanished. These agencies are not being supplied the stock of fertilizers as per their requirement. I wish to say that the hon. Minister should look into it seriously and ask the concerned Departments as to how much fertilizers were supplied to these three or four districts of Purvancal especially in Jaunpur and Gajipur during the last three years. You will be surprised to know that the people in these districts are facing acute shortage of fertilizers. At least fifty rakes of fertilizers are despatched there, but the farmers of that area do not get anything and all the rakes of fertilizers are sold at nearby districts or nearby places. There is a firm in the name of 'Radhakrishna Vimal Kumar' to which 20-25-30 or 40 rakes of fertilizers are given every year whereas some other small agencies in that area are not given even a single rake of fertilizer. I could not understand that why the small agencies are not supplied fertilizers. If the small agencies are not supplied fertilizers then how the farmers will be able to get these? If all the supply of fertilizers will be given to only one firm then that firm will sell it in the black market in the neighbouring State or nearby places and thus crores of rupees are being embezzled. Through you I would like to request the hon. Minister to investigate this matter and find out that what is happening there.

Sir, the Dairy and Animal Husbandary are also included in these demands. Here I would like to refer to my Saidpur constituency. This is, however, a very nice scheme.

Some amount has been reduced in this Demand. We want that the required amount asked by them should be provided. But I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister of Agriculture towards Saidpur, Sadat, Devkali blocks which is the largest milk production area. In this area most of the people belong to the Schedule Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Backward Class and minorities and they themselves are involved in this profession. Milk Khoya are supplied from here to big towns like Varanasi, Gorakhpur, Allahabad, Lucknow etc. in great quantity. During the Prime Ministership of Shrimati Indira Gandhi in 1982 I had requested in this very august House to set up a dairy farm at on the pattern of 'Amul' in Gujarat so that the interests of the people belonging to backward class, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes promoted for milk production and they should be provided high breed buffaloes and cows. The then Prime Minister had appreciated the proposal and assured to consider it and promote dairy farming in such small places. But the scheme is still lying pending without any progress. Today Shrimati Indira Gandhi is no more with us and you are in the Government. I want that the Government should take concrete measures to materialise the dreams of Shrimati Indira Gandhi in this regard. I request the hon. Minister to materialise her dream and promote milk production.

Sir, the demand No.47 is related to Education. The Demand is of the total budget of Rs.2420 crore 80 lakh. Out of this budget, Rs.150 crore were allocated to Rajiv Gandhi Foundation for opening of libraries in

villages. It is a good scheme but the fund allocated for this scheme is less. Where there is more plundering, there is more allocation of funds. On the other hand, where there is no misappropriation, there is less allocation of funds. I support this demand from the core of my heart. I would like the Hon. Minister of State for Revenue to allocate more fund against this demand. Today, there is a great need to open more libraries in the villages. The Government should take keen interest in the development of the villages.

Sir, the issue of allocation of fund under Member of Parliament Local Area Development Fund Scheme was being discussed in this House. Under this scheme, each Member has been given powers to undertake any developmental work worth Rs.1 crore in his/her constituency. As far as I know, under the guidelines, priority is given to construction of school buildings. If a school is recognised, the Member of Parliament can sanction Rs. 2-4 lakhs from this fund for the construction of a building for a school. In India, particularly in Uttar Pradesh and more particularly in Eastern Uttar Pradesh, where the situation is critical, the small children study under the shade of the trees by just wearing underwears. They don't have mat for sitting, small board and slate for writing and clothes for wearing. As the field of education has made big strides, the parents thought that if they could not avail the facility of education, at least their children should avail it. It is with this hope that they send their children to school. I have sanctioned Rs 50,000 out of this fund to some such schools. Further, I have put a condition that the schools should manage Rs.25,000 themselves so that the work worth Rs.75,000 could be taken up. Gajipur, Jaunpur and Varanasi district have agreed to this condition but I regret to say that there

are some project officials who are not according approval to these projects. I would, therefore, request that such officials should be checked through Uttar Pradesh Government. The project officials of two districts have stated that the money can be utilised under this scheme but one project officer has said that it cannot be done. This Project Officer is not even implementing the orders of the Collector. I even showed him the guidelines, but he did not budge. All these things should be looked into.

Sir, it is a very good scheme. The hon. Prime Minister has given Rupees One crore to each Member belonging to every party. It is not only being given to the Members of a single party but to all 544 Mps. In true sense, he wants the country to develop but there are some officials, who want to foil these good schemes. However, the hon. Prime Minister has said that he will himself look into it and wherever there is any doubt that will be removed. How much he is concerned for the development of the country but the things are happening to the contrary. However, we cannot absolve ourselves from this responsibility.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, in this regard, I would like to say that in addition to the scheme of sanctioning fund for the construction of building of a recognised school, there is another scheme for providing stipend to the students. A discussion was also held in this regard in this House. I would like to bring it to the notice of the hon. Minister that 20-25 years ago, a 8th standard student used to get Rs.12 as stipend. Later on, it was revised and increased upto Rs.18. Since then, the prices have increased ten times but the amount of stipend has not been increased proportionately. Today, the amount of scholarship given to the students of High

school, Intermediate, B.A. and post graduates is the same as was prevalent ten years ago. The students of backward classes are also getting the same amount of stipend in hostels. It has not been increased so far in proportion to the price hike. With the existing amount of stipend, the student can not even meet his expenses for one month. The admissions start in June-July but the scholarship is given in January. The poor parents think that they should at least get the assistance which the Government is giving. We claim that the schemes have been formulated for the poor but what is their nature. The student need copies and books today, whereas they get scholarship after eight months. I don't understand this logic. It should also be looked into.

Those people are getting widow pension and old age pension who are not widows and old. I can at least cite the names of one hundred persons of my constituency, who are not widows but are getting widow pensions. The State Government are given crores of rupees to do good work. I would like to ask the hon. Minister whether he has ever asked in the conference of the Chief Minister that such issues are raised in the Lok Sabha. Can they justify it.

Today, the Members of the opposition parties are not present in the house. I would like to say that whatever is to be discussed, it should be discussed in the House. JPC has submitted its report but nothing new has happened. A slander campaign is being launched against the hon. Prime Minister. It has been stated that the Prime Minister has received Rupees One crore as bribe and the amount was put in a briefcase. Later on, it was found that such amount of money cannot be put into a briefcase. Which Prime Minister has said that he does support corruption? We all want to eradicate

corruption. But today the opposition is absent from the House and is fighting against the corruption on the streets. Today, the Demands for Grants were to be presented in the House and they could have presented their views through these demands. I am also speaking and criticising the short comings. Nobody told me that I am wrong. Then why are they doing like this?

I would like to submit that demands for grants are talked too tall in the House. The Government should exercise control over it keeping Rs.10-20 crore more for that in the beginning. Budget means a balance between the income and the expenditure and we should work towards this. Where did this unbalanced budget come from? The Government would say that there is price rise. If the prices have increased, the budget also belongs to that year. The House will have to approve it. We have to look into all these aspects. There is muddling from top to bottom. With these words, I support these supplementary demands.

SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR (Durg): Today, a proposal for according approval to the Supplementary demands of the Central Budget is under consideration. There is no doubt that the Department of Agriculture had to increase its demand by Rs.250 crore because it had to pay more for the fertilizers. This demand has been made according to their increasing need. Now, it should be utilised properly.

Due to heavy flood in several parts of the country, the crops have been destroyed badly. The Department of Agriculture would have demanded Rs.500-600 crore to meet the loss. There is a need to extend maximum assistance to the people whose crops have been washed away in the flood. The Department would require hundreds of

crores of rupees to overcome this problem. The roads and canals have also been damaged by the flood and paddy crop has been destroyed. In this flood about 650 people have died till last week. I mean to say that the Ministry of Agriculture should immediately make their demand. They should keep it in mind well before that the budget or supplementary demands are passed in the House.

Today, unemployment is the biggest problem in the country. The population of our country is 90 crore. There is no village where there are no educated unemployed youth. The Government cannot provide them jobs, yet it can open more and more universities to promote horticulture, floriculture and afforestation. The Government has framed a policy to increase export of fruits. It will also help in increasing the export of fruits. Still only the children of millionaires and billionaires are able to reap its benefit. The children of poor farmers are not given any training. There should be one such university in every State and one collage in every district. If the educated youth of an area want to grow forest, fruits, flowers or vegetables, they can get proper training from these colleges.

The Department of Education has been allocated a little amount. It should get more allocation. I have no objection on this point. Today, the standard of education in villages is almost nil. In every State, the school buildings are in a dilapidated condition. They are required to be renovated. Similarly, there is shortage of teachers. particularly science and mathematics. In many of the schools, there are no teachers to teach mathematics. The claim that our country is progressing properly and that only the industrial development will help in the development of the country, is not tenable and it is not possible unless the agricultural

development of the country takes place. Fifty percent of the emphasis being given on the industrial development should be diverted towards agricultural development but it is not being done. Even in the case of Doordarshan, all the subjects like industry, stock market etc. are discussed which takes one third of the entire time but there is no discussion on agriculture on it. 70 percent of the viewers of Doordarshan belong to agricultural sector and there is nothing on it for them. How then they will have interest in Doordarshan. The Government has not given required amount of grant to the students, boys and girls of the villages, for education and proper attention is not being paid towards it. I admit that this issue relates to the State Government but the Centre Government should have control on the States and should ask them to provide education to compulsory to them. On one hand, there are no schools, teachers and arrangement for education for those children who are in the school going age group and on the other hand, we spend on the education of the adults of 20, 30 and 40 years of age. It is right that the money for this purpose comes from UNESCO etc but we should spend this money on the education of children. Appoint the teachers for the education of the adults and let the teachers teach the children. My submission is that the money should be utilised properly. We have no arrangement for the studies of the rural youth in our country. There are no teachers and no schools even. They do not compete and even if they take the exams, they do not secure good marks. There are good facilities for the education of the urban children. There are reasons for it, I am not blaming the city dwellers specially but it is true that today no teacher wants to go to a village. The educated city youths become teachers since they secure good marks.

When they are appointed in a village, after 3-4 months they seek transfer to the cities. If they have a push, they come to cities. Today in each district hundreds of teachers are drawing salaries without teaching. My submission is that proper attention has not been paid towards education.

It is a matter of happiness that the Ministry of Steel has been granted sufficient amount since there is a need to make development in it. The Ministry of Steel has made a good progress in exporting steel. The Ministry of Steel deserves congratulations for it. I would like to congratulate the officers and employees of Bhilai Steel Plant specially for their efforts to export steel and for raising the productivity.

Besides, I would like to submit that apart from the Bhilai Steel Plant there is another big refractory plant of the country, which manufactures costly bricks. This is the largest refractory plant which is located in Bhilai but it is controlled from somewhere else. What is going on in it today is that the public relations of the employees and the officers are not cordial since the local officers and employees are neglected there as the people at the helms of affairs recruit and send some people there. I would like to submit to the hon. Minister of Railways, who was present here some time earlier to remove the irregularities in the Bhilai Refractory Plant. Our steel plants are buying refractory and bricks from private sector, which are of poor quality. I will not disclose the reason since you can guess it very well. Why are they buying poor quality material; they should buy good quality of material from public sector. My submission to the Ministry of Industries is that it should get good quality bricks made from B.R.P. and purchase these, only then Bhilai Refractory Plant can make progress.

I would like to submit something about roads. The condition of roads in the states ruled by BJP is very poor. Not to speak of constructing new roads, even the old roads have not been repaired for the last many years. Condition of roads in Madhya Pradesh also is very poor. There is not a single road in Madhya Pradesh in comparison to Delhi. The condition of National Highway No.6, which connects Durg, Raipur, Calcutta and Bombay, is also very poor and many bridges have collapsed due to rain. Therefore, I urge upon the road transport department to repair the national highway alongwith the other roads.

As Shastriji has said that more and more money should be invested in animal husbandary and dairy development since it gives employment to the rural educated youth. My submission is that whenever the budget or the supplementary budget is prepared, special attention should be paid towards such schemes which help in removing unemployment since today the biggest problem before our country is unemployment. Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, as you know that to remove unemployment, schemes like IRDP have been launched but the money given for this purpose is misutilised. Today, if someone living below poverty line is given a subsidy of Rs.5000, a sum of Rs.4,000 out of it is swallowed by others they say that you are getting this money for nothing so we should have our share in it. My submission is that subsidies under such schemes should be stopped and the amount of interest on the loans should be waived off so that corruption may be eliminated and the people may get the maximum benefits from the schemes.

Likewise, the hon. Prime Minister has made available money for various projects but my submission is that the work done on these projects should be monitored after

every three months by the Government agencies and it should be checked whether the amount is being properly used or is being misused. The hon. Prime Minister has said that 3 percent of the revenue is being spend on education but he is aware that the condition of schools in rural areas is very poor. He has admitted that after sometime we will spend 6 per cent of our income on education. It is good. You might be knowing that for the last many elections, it is being demanded in the U.S.A. that the Federal Government should take over education. In our set up, education is entirely a State Government subject. We have five lakh seventy six thousand villages but the Centre is not in a position to control even a single school. The education will remain in the hands of the States. In our education system, we do not have proper facilities for the education of the rural children. The departments of the Ministry of Home Affairs are spread throughout the country. If a department or a factory is set up in the district, they take a large chunk of land. What is the result of it? Every year lakhs of acres of land is given in the name of industry or Government buildings. The result is that our agricultural land is decreasing day by day. I belong to district Durg of Madhya Pradesh. Two to three thousand acres of land of the Centre has been occupied by some police department, what was the need of it? The agricultural land is decreasing day by day. The Government should impose a ban on construction of single storey buildings in the cities; at least 4 storey buildings should be constructed. Maximum attention should be paid towards the misutilisation of land since on one hand the misuse of land is increasing and on the other hand, the population is increasing.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Prof. K.V.Thomas.

SHRI E. AHAMED: Sir, are you calling only the ruling Party Members?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Where is the Opposition?

SHRI E. AHAMED: I am a Member of the Opposition

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Are you in the Opposition? Then, Prof. Thomas, please wait and give a chance to him. Mr. Ahamed, you have asserted your right. It should not be violated.

17. 38 hrs.

SHRI E. AHAMED: Sir, if it is an honour to the Opposition, then I would like to take this opportunity.

Sir, I rise to support the Supplementary Demands for Grants to the tune of Rs.343 crore moved by the hon. Minister of State in the Ministry of Finance.

While supporting these Demands, I would like to make certain observations with respect to some of the Ministries especially the Banking Department of the Finance Ministry. Now, the recruitment to the banks is being conducted by the Banking Services Commission. After its constitution, there is fairness in every respect especially with respect to the selection of candidates from the backward classes and minorities. I am given to understand that now there is a move to entrust this task to the individual banks.

It will be a disastrous one and its consequences will also be disastrous ones in case it is changed. So far as the Government's policies are concerned. Now, the Banking Commission is strictly adhering to the instructions given by the Government

and, as such, representation to all sections of the society has been ensured. If, on the other hand, this task of recruitment of bank employees is given to the individual banks, it will have its own adverse effects on the representation of various sections of the society.

Another point I would like to mention to the Minister is about the regional imbalances in the grants given to the States. There are certain States which may be very big and which may also vary from other States, but there are States like Kerala which, I should say, have not been given due consideration. Kerala is one State which is earning a very considerable amount of foreign exchange, both by way of cash crops as well as manpower, which all the people know. When the State was reeling under difficulties for foreign exchange, it was the Kerala boys, who have been working in the Gulf countries, who came forward to help the exchequer. This cannot be lost sight of. Even now Kerala has a very considerable share in the foreign exchange that we earn from the Indian Community from other countries. So, such a State should also be given adequate consideration in the allocation of funds for its development. But, unfortunately, the norm that has been adopted by the Government of India, did not meet the requirements of Kerala, especially in the matter of railways.

The hon. Minister for Railways was here a little while ago. In Kerala also there are certain areas like the Malabar area which have been neglected very much. Malabar was a part and parcel of the erstwhile Madras Province which has made considerable contribution to the formation of Southern Railway, formerly known as the South Indian Rail. But that portion of Kerala- the Malabar area- has been completely neglected by the Southern Railway. With the

result, we, in that area, do not have sufficient number of trains. Even if the trains are there, all the bogies are still not in use. Furthermore, our consistent demand for the doubling of the railway line between Mangalore and Shoranur has not been fully met by the Railways. Even now only one portion of that area has been taken up for doubling. Of course, it is welcome that the Railway has accepted our demand. Even now there are several requests from the people of Kerala to have new lines as well as new trains, but these demands have not been given due consideration. One example is that the Railways have introduced the Rajdhani Express and we all welcome this step taken by the Government and the Railways. But the people from Malabar will not have the benefit of that Rajdhani. When it comes from Madras side and after crossing Coimbatore, it passes through Palghat and goes to Ernakulam without stopping at Palghat railway station. The people from Malabar area and also South Canara, will not be benefited unless it stops at Palghat also.

So, one Rajdhani Express is going from New Delhi to Trivandrum completely neglecting about half a portion of the Kerala State, the Malabar area and also a portion of Karnataka. Our repeated requests to the Railway Minister to have a stop at Palghat for two minutes has not been accepted so far. This is the way in which Malabar area has been neglected by the Railways. Palghat is a very important junction and it should stop there. If it is a real Rajdhani it should also stop at a place like Palghat. Definitely the people of Malabar who are working in various parts of the country and mainly in Northern India will be benefited. Otherwise, for the people belonging to Trivandrum area it goes to Trivandrum and for the people belonging to Cochin area, it is stopping at Ernakulam neglecting the

entire area for which the centre is Palghat. I do not know why the Government is following a very rigid attitude even in respect of such a small request for a two minutes' stop of the Rajdhani Express at Palghat.

SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES (Udupi): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, it should not be treated as a stop also. It is a very important junction allowing the people to go to different directions. So, I fully agree with the demand of Mr. Ahamed.

SHRI E. AHAMED: The people belonging to Coimbatore, in Tamil Nadu who are having a very good interaction with the people of Kerala, will also be benefited by this stopping of the Rajdhani Express at Palghat. If the train is for the benefit of the travelling public, then it should definitely have a stop at Palghat Junction which is a very important junction in the Southern Railway.

Sir, our hon. Prime Minister has announced on the 15th of August last year that his Government is going to form a Minority Development Finance Corporation. So, it is only a few days more for the completion of one year of the announcement made by the hon. Prime Minister.

Sir, what is the position of minorities in this country? There are certain people and certain political parties who are doing such a campaign and also making speeches from the housetops that the minorities are being appeased. I would like to take this opportunity to ask one question. What is the appeasement of the minority community in India? What is the representation of the minority community in the Government Services, public undertakings and security forces. Is not it abysmally poor? Could the Government bring out the facts and figures

that this is the percentage of representation of the minority community? I challenge anybody to say that the minorities have been given more than five per cent of jobs in any of the Government sector or the public undertakings. In the public undertakings, even the job of a chaprasi has not been given to this section of the society. How many judges have been appointed recently to the High Courts and the Supreme Court? What is the ratio given to the minority communities, the Muslims? Have they been given justice or a fair representation? No, Sir. The Constitution provides that those who are socially and educationally backward should be given the weightage or, what is known as, the reservation in the selection to the services and they are to be treated as Backward Classes and not as a Community. I do not speak about a Community. I am speaking about the Backward Classes as Mr. Shastri and other Members have referred to.

But when the backward section of society among the Muslims say that we want reservation, is it appeasement of minority? I cannot understand this. Of course, in the minority community, if they are socially and educationally backward, are they not entitled to have the benefit of the Constitutional provisions? Why the Government has not given sufficient consideration or active consideration to this demand? The only State in India is Kerala which has done justice to all the backward classes irrespective of the fact that they are in Muslim community or Hindu community or Christian community. The Kerala is the only model State in the entire India in respect of the reservation to the backward classes. Everybody has been given his own

share, his own right place. But, unfortunately those in other States who were appeared to be the champion of the backward classes, will forget the real share of the minorities who are more backward than even the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in certain areas. That is the claim, the demand of the minority community that they be given adequate representation; and even the commitment for the establishment of a Minority Finance Development Corporation for which the Prime Minister has committed on 15th August, 1993 has not been implemented so far. And I take this opportunity to demand the Government to please implement the promise of the hon. Prime Minister given to the nation.

Another point I would like to mention here is about the misuse of TADA. Sir, TADA is a provision, the validity of which has been upheld by the Supreme Court. I do not want to dispute it now. But it has, as a matter of fact, gone out of its proportion. Why can we not scrap this TADA provision? What is the use of TADA? How many people have been arrested so far. One report says that out of 50,000 people who have been arrested so far under TADA, not even five persons have been convicted by the designated Courts. Is it correct on the part of a democratic pattern of Government to put the innocent people behind the bar and allow them to languish there? How many innocent people are there? Sir I can very well understand if the culprit - whoever he might be - is apprehended or arrested, brought before the Court and put on trial. But what about the innocent people? From butcher to cinema actor has been arrested under TADA. How many people have been brought before the Court. It is a country where the Preventive Detection Act has been resisted to and resented to. It was a

country ruled by no less a person than great Pandit Jawahar Lal Nehru, a democratic country which is honoured world over. In such a country how the Government will be able to justify it? I am not against using any provision of I am against any offender or against any culprit. But when the people who are innocent who are not able to prove their innocence before the court have been arrested and harassed. It is misuse of TADA and corruption under TADA and many cases have been brought to my notice which I have already brought to the notice of the hon. Home Minister and the respective Chief Ministers of the States like Shri Sharat Pawar of Maharashtra, Shri Chhabil Das Mehta of Gujarat and Shri Bhairon Singh Shekhawat of Rajasthan personally. What happened to them? Those who have been put behind the bars will even be released by the officers if there is proper efforts to that. How many people will be able to do that. Is it not corruption going on in the name of TADA? How a civilized society like that of Indian society to stand this much of harassment, this much of intimidation and the denial of justice for the citizens of this country?

Therefore, I would say, it is really a paradox, an irony that when the TADA was brought taking into the situation in Punjab, it is being misused in other States. In Punjab, it was to be used for the security and for other reasons, for the sake of the integrity of the country. But it is only in Punjab, the Chief Minister has released some people who have been arrested under TADA. But all other States are resorting to the provisions of TADA, especially to wreck vengeance against those people who are against people in high places. Therefore, I may avail of this occasion to plead with the Government to direct the State Governments to at least reconsider and review the cases of all those who have been

arrested under TADA, in accordance with the directives given by the Supreme Court. The Supreme Court has made it apparently clear that the doctrine of personal liberty should be honoured.

I am just mentioning one or two things. This morning also, I have raised about Assam. What happened in Assam is shameful for the entire country. On the one hand, we have been propagating unity, integrity as well as brotherhood among the people, large sections of the people. I am not talking of particular community. But it happened to be the people from the minority community who have been massacred — not once but thrice. That has been discussed earlier. I do not want to go into details. Those who have been thrown out of their houses or those who have been rendered homeless are living in 10 relief camps. Fifty thousand people are living in those camps without any medicine or food or clothing. But the district administration gives the Press release saying, they are well looked after. Who are responsible for these things? Such heinous crimes have been committed by some people and are going scot free. Therefore, in the interest of justice and fair play, the Government of India should persuade the State Government to order a judicial enquiry, as far as possible, by a sitting judge of the Supreme Court, to go into the details whether the Bodo Accord was good for the country and who are responsible to let the violence loose in that part of the country, which resulted in continuous massacre of innocent people which has brought shame to this country in the comity of nations.

With these words, I support the Supplementary Demands for Grants moved by the hon. Finance Minister and I hope the Government will take note of the points that I have raised here.

PROF. K.V.THOMAS (Ernakulam):
 Mr. Deputy -Speaker, Sir, I support the
 Supplementary Demands for Grants moved
 by the hon. Finance Minister.

Three years back, when this
 Government came to power, the financial
 situation was in turmoil, the law and order
 situation was worse. From that bad position,
 today when we discuss the Supplementary
 Demands for Grants, we can discuss it with
 peace and satisfaction.

Sir, the last three years were a period
 of difficulty and new experiences. We have
 taken a new path in our economic structure,
 in our industrial policy and these three years
 have shown that the bold decisions which
 were taken have given new fruits.

MR. DEPUTY- SPEAKER: Just a
 minute, Prof. Thomas. Is it the desire of the
 House that we should sit for another ten or
 fifteen minutes?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Sir, we will
 continue tomorrow.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Prof.
 Thomas, would you like to complete today?

PROF. K.V.THOMAS: Sir, we will
 continue tomorrow.

SHRI P.C.CHACKO (Trichur): Sir, if
 Prof. Thomas wants to complete his speech
 today, we will sit for some more time.
 Otherwise, we will continue tomorrow.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Okay, we will
 accept the recommendation of Shri Chacko
 The House stands adjourned to meet again
 tomorrow, i.e., on 9th August, 1994, at 11.00
 a.m.

18. 00 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven
 of the Clock on Tuesday, August 9, 1994 ,
 Sravana 18, 1916 (Saka)*